

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST.

Designed to improve the Farmer, the Planter, and the Gardener.

AGRICULTURE IS THE MOST HEALTHFUL, THE MOST USEFUL, AND THE MOST NOBLE EMPLOYMENT OF MAN—WASHINGTON.

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WORK FOR THE MONTH.

'Sweet June! with thy fair forehead bound
With dewy wild-flowers, and with roses crowned,
I love thee well.
Deep in the heart of man, all o'er the earth
Thy presence spreads a livelier tone of mirth,
A soft, deep spell.
The newly budded groves repeat thy call
With joy through all the thick arcades;
And the hoarses plunging waterfall
Rejoices in its dim primeval shades."

But the finest description of the poet can not half equal the reality of a June scene in the forest. One must stand there beneath that canopy of verdure, and see the fresh leaves, the tender shoots of new made wood, upon the end of every bough; one must hear the plunge of the waterfall and the soft murmur of the breeze in the tree tops; and feel the pressure of the spongy moss and the decaying leaves beneath his feet, to realize the scene. What a contrast now, to the same forest in mid winter. Then the brook that leaps and roars and foams in all the wildness of its summer gambles, was stifled with the beauty of still life. No artist could fix in stone forms so beautiful as fringed this stream, a few brief months ago. But the fairy creations of the frost king are all vanished now, and the icy diamonds that glittered on every leaflet of the pine and hemlock, now sparkle in the laughing waters of the brook as they bound away toward the sea. Then the forests bare of foliage, and deserted of the singing birds, awed the spirit by their silence, and invited man to self communion and reflection. Now every thing here seems with life, and invites man to observation and enjoyment. There is something new to study in the most familiar scenes. The trees have a new dress, and the young shoots are making progress day by day, that the eye can detect. The moss covered rock assumes a new livery, and green shrubs and flowers of every hue crop out of its rifted sides. The insects are busy whirling through the air, crawling along the trunks of trees, and upon the earth in search of food, or making preparation to lay their eggs for another generation of their kind. Now is the time to study the habits of these creatures that so often prey upon the labors of the husbandman, and destroy his hopes of harvest.

But the cultivated fields invite us, as well

as the wildness and beauty of the forest. Seed time is almost past. How many precious hopes have been committed to the torn and broken sod. The grains and seeds of roots that were thus sown or planted have not mocked the cultivator's hopes. Already they have broken the dark earth in which they were entombed and wonders great as the resurrection morn swarm along every cultivated field. The young blades of corn have already increased the print of the hoe, left upon the planted hill. The purple leaflets of the potato are just visible in the drills. The young oats are luxurious and the winter wheat and rye, are already heading out, and pushing on toward maturity. But we have more pressing duties than observation during this month, though we could wish that cultivators observed their crops more closely, and the insects that often commit such ravages, upon them. These field studies would often be found more profitable than books.

June is a hot month, and the man's business is the care of crops already planted. It is not too late however to put in potatoes, and the early kinds of Indian corn during the first days of this month. But

TILLAGE

is the great work of June in the field and in the garden. As a rule we pay far too little attention to our hoed crops, corn, potatoes, and other roots after planting. Potatoes are hoed once and corn twice. An additional hoeing is thought to be a waste of time and labor. We believe from our own experiments and from the reported experiments of others, that capital expended in the cultivation of crops will bring as good returns as capital invested in manure, or in good tools. Tillage was hardly over estimated even by Jethro Tull, the first great advocate of a deep and thorough pulverization of the soil in English husbandry. He recommended the scarifying of the soil as often as once in ten or twelve days through the growing season. This certainly works well in the garden upon the cabbage plants, which are profitably hoed once a week, until the heads are well formed, and the ground is mostly shaded. Potatoes may be profitably hoed twice or three times before they are in blossom. After they bloom, we have thought the stirring of the soil tended to the formation of new tubers, and made too large a share of small potatoes in the harvest. But there is no such danger in the treatment of corn, and we frequently hoe this crop four and five times, and think the last two hoe-

ings pay as well as the first three. On the last two hoeings we would not use the cultivator, or horse-harrow, as they might injure the surface roots, which begin to form abundantly the latter part of the season. If any cultivator doubts this, let him try the experiment on any acre of corn. Let him divide his acre into three equal parts. Cultivate and hoe the whole acre, say on the 1st, 15th, and 30th days of June. Then leave one third for the rest of the season. The second third, hoe on the 15th of July, and leave for the rest of the season. The last third hoe on the 15th, and 31st of July, and then leave till harvest. Husk and measure each third accurately, and note the result. We think the hoeings will pay better at about two weeks interval, rather than to come later in the season. At the middle and last of August, many surface roots must be destroyed, and this might more than balance the advantage of stirring the soil. We would cultivate perfectly flat, unless the ground is wet when it may be an advantage to make a small hill about the plants at the last hoeing. We want more light upon the matter of thorough tillage, and we trust the readers of our journal will institute experiments this summer, to satisfy themselves. If it appears that each hoeing adds two or three bushels per acre to the corn-crop, he can easily determine whether or not it will pay.

KEEP THE WEEDS DOWN,

whether you hoe many times or few. These pests of the farm not only abstract the riches of the soil, but they scatter their seeds among all kinds of grain and grasses, and greatly hinder future cultivation. It cost us several hard days' work last year, to eradicate the charlock from a piece of Spring Wheat, which had been stocked years before with that troublesome weed. Some slack cultivator let the intruder go to seed in his corn field, and twenty years after they return to plague his successor, and cost him five dollars to abate the nuisance. The present operations of the farmer, like those of most other kinds of business, take hold of future years. For your own future comfort and prosperity, keep down the weeds.

GOOD TOOLS

are now paying a large interest, and if you are not furnished with a steel toothed cultivator, to go between the corn and potatoes, make the investment immediately. In smooth land it is far preferable to the harrow. It lifts the soil and leaves it very fine. Light hoes also make a great difference in the ease with which a day's labor may be

accomplished, and in the amount of labor done.

MILLET.

This is a fine crop for winter fodder. Some farmers think it as valuable as the best English hay. See articles on millet in the May issue, and this number.

CORN FOR FODDER.

We desire to keep this article before the eyes of our readers. This may be sown at any time up to the fifteenth or end of June. We would not sow later on account of the difficulty of curing the crop. We have seen some complaint made upon this point, in our agricultural journals. The corn stalks molded, and made poor fodder. It was cut up too late in the season, when there was not sufficient heat in the sun to dry the stalks. The last week in August, or the first of September, is a very good time to cure it well. Of course there will not be so much in weight, but it will be better cured and much more valuable.

HAYING.

Some pieces of grass badly lodged may need to be cut the last of this month. But with this exception this business will go over to another month.

MULCHING.

should be attended too early. The young trees set out this Spring, are now nicely started, and the soil is thoroughly warmed. The danger now is, that the hot sun and drying winds of Summer, will either stop their growth, or kill them outright. Give them a good mulch of old hay, shavings, sawdust, or fine brush. Any thing that will retain moisture, and shield their roots from the hot sun, will answer. Many a fine tree is lost, for want of this protection. The Raspberry plants will also be greatly benefited by this treatment. This shrub loves a deep moist soil, and a mulch facilitates both the formation of young plants, and the perfecting of the fruit. The berries ripen in succession for several weeks, and it often happens, that the later berries are very small for want of sufficient moisture. Try mulching about the bearing canes, and mark the result. The finer kind of Raspberries, as the Fastolff, the Franconia, and the Antwerp, make new plants very slowly in comparison with the more hardy varieties. Mulching will help this difficulty, and give the cultivator a much larger crop of young plants to dispose of next Spring. At one dollar a dozen they pay much better than most farm crops. The berries also are a good crop at twenty-five cents a quart. The market in all our cities and villages is not half supplied with this delicious fruit.

STRAWING THE STRAWBERRY

must also be attended to early this month, if it has not been done before. A heavy rain will often spoil a whole picking of these berries, if the strawing has been neglected.

Each rain drop as it falls scatters the dirt, and it lodges upon the berries and adheres. They are not marketable. To prevent this, lay between the rows any clean hay or straw to cover the dirt. Tan, also answers a very good purpose. Fresh cut salt hay is also a good article.

WATERING STRAWBERRIES

while blossoming and fruiting, will make the crop much more abundant. This would pay the large cultivator, if he had a one horse sprinkler to apply it with. The amateur, who wishes to take the prizes at the Horticultural exhibitions, will not neglect it. A weak solution of liquid manure is still better.

YOUNG TREES IN FRUIT.

Do not leave a single fruit to mature, upon any young tree set this Spring. It needs all its energies to establish itself in its new position. It should be left to make wood for two or three years after planting. The increased bearing of the tree after that will fully compensate the owner for his self denial. Some trees become hopelessly stunted, by excessive bearing, soon after they are set out. "Wood first, and fruit afterwards," is a good motto. Some of our finest varieties, as the Urbanist, and the Dix show their good sense by putting off bearing until late.

CATERPILLARS,

and other insects must be looked after this month. Clear out every nest, and wash trunk and branch of your trees, in strong soap-suds. A wash of soda or of potash is good, if you know how to make and apply it. But so many young trees are killed with these washes in the hands of the inexperienced, that we do not recommend them in ordinary cases. These are a part of the geonomics of June, to be attended to now or never.—ED.

PASTURAGE FOR DRY WEATHER.

At the risk of complaints of repetition, we cannot let this paper go to press without saying, sow CORN FOR FODDER! and if not corn, then sow millet. Evidence accumulating an hundred-fold every summer testifies to the great advantages of sowing, drilling, or planting from half an acre to ten acres or more of corn, to be cut up during the latter part of summer, when the pastures are dried up. Besides a regular large plot put in smaller ones here and there around the farm, in this corner, among those potatoes, on the summer fallow, &c., and then during the warm days of August and September, cut up and fed daily to each pastured animal a few handfuls of the green succulent stalks. This will keep them all—whether workers, milkers, or growers—in good heart, and will pay ten-fold the cost. Try it, ALL. Sow or plant a little now, some more next week, and a little the week after.

CURING RATTLE SNAKE BITES.—The following is almost too good to be true. We give it for what it is worth. The Wisconsin Farmer says: Take the yolk of a good egg, and put it in a tea cup; stir in as much salt as will make it thick enough not to run off. Spread it as a plaster, and apply it to the wound, and we will insure your life for a sixpence.

A man ceases to be a 'good fellow' the moment he refuses to do precisely what other people wish him to do.

When his physician advised him "take a walk upon an empty stomach," Smith asked "Upon whose?"

CALENDAR OF OPERATIONS.

JUNE 1856.

[We propose to give from month to month, besides our leading article, "Work for the Month," a calendar of some of the more important operations in the field, garden, &c. These are adapted to the latitudes of 41° to 49°. A little allowance must be made for each degree of latitude—later north, earlier south. An early season, or a late one like the present advances or retards operations, so that we shall need to revise and adapt these tables to each year. The letters f. m. l. refer to *first*, *middle*, and *last* of the month. Doubling the letters thus: ff., mm., or ll., gives emphasis to the particular period indicated.]

Some of the following were in last month's Calendar, but when not attended to or not completed, may be performed this month, ff., to m.

THE FIELD.

Barley—sow ff., if not already done.

Beets—drill in ff., to m. Sow Mangold Wurtzel for cattle, as they produce abundantly, and are excellent for milch cows, and other stock.

Buckwheat—sow m., ll.; odd patches which were too wet to work before, may now be sown with Buckwheat, which is a profitable crop requiring but little manure.

Cabbage—for winter use may be planted out f. m. l. Plow or spade deep and manure well.

Carrots—sow ff. Some varieties, especially the Early Horn, may be sown m. l. Carrots, besides being a good vegetable for the table, are very valuable for stock, especially for horses, and on good soil produce an abundant crop. Bone-dust is an excellent manure.

Celery as a Field Crop—plant out ff. Earth up slightly ll. Trench the rows before planting and manure heavily.

Clover—plow in ff. l., or when in blossom, Corn—plow among early planted mm. l. Sow and drill plentifully for soiling, f. m. l.

Fences—keep in good repair f. m. l., clean out the hedge rows on either side of the fence to prevent their impoverishing the soil and shading the crops.

Hoeing—should be industriously attended to ff. mm. ll. No month in the year requires the hoe to be kept in motion more than the present. Give the young plants space and sunlight in place of weeds.

Hogs—do not neglect their yards and pens, but throw in muck, turf, weeds, leaves and scrapings from the woods and roads, &c., ff. mm. ll., all these will make excellent manure.

Manures—attend to f. m. l., do not allow the droppings to lie exposed over the cow yard till they are as thin as a "pan cake," but scrape them up each morning and throw them in heaps under cover, mixing with muck.

Meadows—keep cattle and especially sheep from them, f. m. l.

Millet—sow f. m. See another page.

Onions—hoe and thin out f. m. l.

Pasturing—f. m. l., do not allow cattle to have too great range, but change often, alternating with sheep.

Potatoes—may still be planted ff. to m. but much better earlier. Plow among and hoe f. l.

Pumpkins—plant ff. to m., among corn for

feeding. Plant Cheese-pumpkins in a deep rich soil for family use ff.

Sheep—wash and sheer ff. to m. Get them under cover before storms after they have been sheared.

Tobacco.—Plant out ff.

Tools—see that you have good ones. It is a trite saying that “he must be a rich man who can afford to work with poor tools.” Do not wait till hay and harvest season is upon you and then find your horse rake was so badly broken last season, that you must have a new one. If you have 15 or more acres of grass, we trust you have decided upon having a mowing machine this season. Get one early and fuss a little with it on a damp day to “get the hang of it.” See that your forks and rakes and cradles and other hay and harvest implements are all ready, for a busy month is close at hand.

Turnips—sow for market f. m. l.—for winter use ll. Plant a large surface for stock, you can not do better. The Strap-leaved and some other varieties may be sown broad cast, and afford fine pasturage for sheep.

KITCHEN GARDEN.

Asparagus—keep clean from weeds and scatter a little coarse salt over the bed, or water with brine.

Beans—Kidney and some other kinds may still be planted ff.

Beets—sow ff. for summer, and m. l. for winter use.

Blackberries—stake up ff.; hoe f. m. l., taking care not to injure the young shoots which are to make the bearing canes for next year’s fruit.

Broccoli—plant out f. m. l.

Cabbage—plant out f. m. l.; use air-slaked lime, or wood ashes sprinkled over them when the dew is on, if attacked by the slug or fly; hoe often and deep.

Carrots—sow f. m. l.; hoe and thin out those sown early.

Cauliflowers—plant out f. m. l., and hoe often.

Celery—plant out in trenches well manured and spaded deep ff. m.; earth up very slightly this month.

Corn—plant Early Sweet Corn, and especially Stowell’s Evergreen.

Cress or Pepper Grass—sow f. m. l., for a succession.

Cucumbers—plant f. m.; and for pickling m. ll. The Cucumber as well as its congeners is often preyed upon by a yellow or striped bug, to prevent which sprinkle the plants while the dew is on, with air-slaked lime, soot, and wood ashes, or dust very lightly with Guano, repeat often.

Economy of Ground.—A judicious gardener may raise a great amount from a small spot of ground—well manured and well tilled. Many small vegetables may be raised among other crops without injuring them in the least. For example, Peas may be planted among Potatoes, the vines of the latter acting as supports for the former. Radishes should not take up any space of their own, but be sown among Beets, Carrots, Parsnips, Melons, Potatoes, &c. (See May Number.) Lettuce, Spinach, early Turnips, &c., may be planted between rows of Corn, Melons,

and Cucumbers. Late Cabbages may be set out between the rows of early Potatoes, and Turnips sown after early Peas, &c.

Egg Plants—plant out on rich soil ff. to m. Hoeing—see field work. Keep the hoe going, going, GOING, GOING, but never “gone.”

Lettuce—sow and plant f. m. l., for a succession.

Melons—may still be planted ff.; look out for bugs.

Nasturtiums—plant ff. See May number. **Onions**—hoe and thin f. m. l.

Parsnips—sow on deep spaded or trenched, rich soil ff.; hoe and thin m. l.

Peas—sow f. m.; support early ones.

Potatoes—plant ff.; hoe m. l.

Radishes—sow f. m. l., among other crops. Select light dry soil, a few seeds scattered among Potatoes or in Melon hills, will produce well without injury to the other plants.

Raspberries—Tie up ff. if not already done. If you have no stakes the tops of two stools may be tied together. Keep free from weeds, and stir the ground often.

Salsify—hoe and thin, f. m.

Spinach or Spinage—sow f. m. l.; thin out early sowings for use.

Squashes—plant ff. m. The squash is an especial favorite of the yellow bug, see directions for Cucumbers.

Strawberry-Beds—keep the ground clear from weeds; and water the beds frequently and thoroughly during the bearing season unless it rains often. See another page.

Tomatoes—plant out f. m.

Turnips—sow Early Dutch, and Strap-leaved f. m. Ruta Baga and Swedes for winter use, ll. Turnips, Beets, Cabbages, &c., for winter use are more tender and will keep better when sown late so as to mature during the cool weather of Autumn.

FLOWER GARDEN AND LAWN.

There is comparatively little required doing in the flower garden this month besides keeping the ground well stirred and free from weeds, and an occasionally watering of plants that have been removed.

Anemones—and other bulbs may be lifted and dried as soon as the leaves have decayed.

Annuals—may still be sown ff. m.

Box—for edging, plant out ff. Shear or clip old borders.

Carnations—trim off side shoots and tie flower stalks to supporters. Water during dry weather, and open the flower pods with scissors, especially if the flower is bursting out at one side; attend to layering, &c.

Chrysanthemums—plant out on dry borders, or in masses, manuring with leaf mold or peat. Apply Guano Water, or at least sink slops during dry weather.

Columbine—divide the roots after flowering.

Cypress Vine—sow in a circle so as to form a pyramid ff. The circle may be from three to six feet in diameter with a pole in the center. Drive down small stakes in the circle, and attach strings to the top of the pole, tying them to the stakes in the circle for the vines to run up on.

Dahlias—plant out and tie up shoots.

Edgings—pare with the edging knife, and

cut the grass with garden shears or grass hook, paring evenly.

Evergreens—set out such as White Pine, Norway Spruce, Arbor Vitæ, Hemlock, &c., in yard or lawn, watering freely.

Fuchsias—plant out ff. to m.

Geraniums—plant out on borders and in masses ff. to m.

Graveled Walks—use the scuffle hoe to cut down the weeds, after which rake and sweep off.

Hedges—trim evenly with garden shears f. to l.; clip evergreen hedges lightly.

Hoeing—is as essential to flowers, as to vegetables, hoe, hoe, HOE, HOE.

Lawn—mow ff. l., and roll smooth. Keep Hybridizing—see another page.

the grass from trees, shrubs and flowers. We have seen fine evergreens “choked” out and killed from a rank growth of grass almost entirely hiding them from view.

Potted Plants—water often and thoroughly, one good watering is worth a dozen sprinklings.

Rhododendrons—may still be set in the lawn or garden; take up a good ball of earth with the roots and they may be moved at almost any time. (See page 185 last month.)

Pruning—Evergreens require but little pruning, except cutting out dead branches, and clipping some varieties to give them a compact habit; prune Deciduous Shrubs, ll.

Roses—this is the month when

—“All is ecstasy, for now
The valley holds its Feast of Roses.”

Bud and layer choice varieties; support standards and weak bushes; syringe with a solution of Whale oil soap, if troubled by the slug, or saw-fly. In many localities the cultivator finds his blooms and even the buds beset by innumerable chafers or rose-bugs, to destroy which he finds no easy task, we know of no better way than to spread sheets under the bushes and shake them off and destroy them by wholesale.

Verbenas—plant out ff., in masses, or on dry borders watering occasionally.

GREEN AND HOT HOUSE.

There will be very little to do in the greenhouse this month, as most of the plants have already been carried to open grounds. Others may now be carried out f. to m., admitting plenty of air during the day.

Make cuttings of geraniums and other plants; layer, inarch and make offsets.

Place the pots of plants carried from the house in a situation where they will be shielded from high winds; and support weak plants by stakes placed in the center of the pots.

Some will need repotting and others only require to be replenished, while all must be watered from two to three times a week, and if the weather is very dry, even oftener. Syringe frequently. Water in the morning before 9 o’clock, or after 4 o’clock in the afternoon.

Spread grass over the surface of tubs or boxes containing orange trees and other large plants to prevent evaporation. Many of the bulbous roots will be ready to take up and dry m. to l.

Fumigate occasionally, &c.

**Thin out Grapes and pinch off side shoots
ORCHARD.**

Mulch trees which have been set out this Spring, watering them in dry weather; keep grass and weeds from growing about their roots.

Thin out the fruit especially from young trees, which often set more than they can properly mature, this is particularly the case with the dwarf pear the first season after transplanting. Two of our own, planted out a year ago last Spring, both set abundance of fruit, all of which save three pears were taken from one, while the other was allowed to mature about one dozen. The fruit on the former was much larger and finer than that of the latter; while the trees now show a marked difference, the one taxed above its powers making very little growth while the other is very thrifty.

Pruning may be done in l., give particular attention to the trimming of young trees, shaping them so that a saw will never after be needed to cut off large branches.

Look out for caterpillars and destroy them as soon as they appear by pinching, or rubbing their nests with rags dipped in a strong solution of whale-oil soap; the rags may be tied to the end of a pole.

Search for borers about the roots of Peach trees, and watch the approach of the curculio on your Plum trees. Spread a sheet under the trees each morning, and jar them suddenly with the hand, after which gather the insects and burn them, a coating of fine salt scattered under the tree is thought to be a preventive.

Cut black spots or wart-like excrescences from Plum trees, paring smooth if the branches on which they appear are too large to cut off.—ED.

EFFECT OF GUANO—LARGE CROP OF GRASS.

—Mr. John Gardner, of Staten Island, cut on the 20th of May, from less than one-fourth of an acre, 815 lbs. of thoroughly cured hay. The surface mown was an old lawn, laid down for many years in grass, is very much shaded, at least one-half of it being covered with trees of dense foliage. The grass was dressed with less than 100 lbs. of Peruvian Guano, on the 12th of April, just after the snow had left the ground, (no other manure of any description being used.) The grass was cut on Monday and exposed in the swath or spread till Saturday, through three of the most sunny, drying days we have had this season. We think the Guano paid for itself in this first crop, yet there may be at least three more for this season, and its effects will unquestionably be felt through another year.—[ED.]

THE UNITED STATES CAMELS.—Thirty of these animals, procured by a government appropriation, to test their adaptability to this country, were landed, May 13, at Indianola, Texas, from the U. S. Store Ship Supply. They were accompanied by one Armenian interpreter, two Turks, and three Arabs. It is the intention of the government to try them as land transports on the western plains and prairies.

MANURE ABSORBENTS.

The last load of manure is at length cleared from the yard, the stables, the hovels, and the barn cellars. It is doing its appointed work in the field, hurrying up the potatoes, tasseling the corn, maturing the fruit, and thickening the grass. All these places are now to be filled with absorbents. The droppings of your cattle should not be allowed to fall for a single day upon the empty yard. This is a vital point in good husbandry, and is too often overlooked. It is a busy season, the crops need hoeing, haying is coming, and too often the carting of dirt into the yard, goes over to August or September. The hot months, when evaporation goes on most rapidly, is the time when absorbents are most essential. The summer sun will steal away your manure if you do not lock it up immediately, in some carbonaceous matter. This, fortunately, is abundant on most farms, and should be immediately looked up and put in its proper place. Every thing in the shape of vegetable matter, dry or decaying, is a good article for this purpose. Old swamp hay, corn stalks, seaweed, &c., should be thrown into the yard and stables for the cattle to lie on.

At the foot of the hill there is a low spot, that has been receiving the wash of the highway for many years. Quite likely the loam is two or three feet deep, furnishing a large quantity of dirt. Then, in the lower part of the meadow, there is a swale that needs ditching, in order to destroy the sour grasses, that now thrive in the wet soil. Put the ditch straight through it, and kill two birds with one stone. Then the swamp where you cut bog hay, and pull moss to caulk the cider press, and to pack nursery trees, would be benefitted by ditching. The muck is there in great abundance, and the yard needs it.

There is also a peat bog upon your premises, quite likely covered with the swamp whortleberry, and the sweet pepper bush, which ought to have been invaded years ago. The peat quite likely is five or six feet deep, and contains all the elements of the crops you wish to grow another year. Again, in the forest, whence you draw your supplies of fuel, there are hollows, partially covered with water in the winter, into which large quantities of leaves have been washing every year for centuries. These are very valuable deposits. The water is already gone from them. Gather up the decayed and spongy material, and drop it in the yard to absorb your manure. This, remember, is the foundation of your next year's operations upon the farm, and must not be neglected.—[ED.]

LUCERNE.—On page 177, of last month's issue, we noticed some experiments made by Mr. Cleu, (not Clou), of Hyde Park, N. Y. To-day, (May 27,) Mr. C. called with a handful of the grass cut from the field where of the ordinary height. The specimens before us average 29 inches in length. This is certainly a large growth, considering the lateness of the present season.

The leaves resemble clover. The stalks

are green and succulent at the base, and taste to us very like the pods of peas. Mr. Cleu is highly pleased with the result of his experiments, especially that his crop has entirely resisted the severe cold of the last winter. He cuts it this week.

NOW FOR THOSE HAY CAPS.

We think we were the first to suggest the use of HAY-CAPS several years ago, and we have written something on the subject a number of times since. But whoever was the originator, we are sure the things themselves are good, and this is the month to make them, if the work was neglected during the comparative leisure of winter. If the coming haying be anything like the last, they will more than pay cost this year, while with care they will last eight or ten seasons, if not longer. A dozen caps will often save a ton of hay in good order, which would otherwise be nearly spoiled, and the same caps may be used several times during one year, both for hay and grain.

Buy a piece of brown cotton, five or six quarters wide, and stretch it upon stakes, or better, upon the side of a board or post-and-rail fence. With a common painter's brush apply a coat of common linseed oil, mixed with about one-fourth its bulk of spirits of turpentine well stirred in, while both are warm. Let it hang until dry, and it will be ready for use. A composition has been recommended made by boiling together one gallon of linseed oil and two pounds of beeswax, and stirring in a quart of Japan varnish when cold. This appears to be an excellent preparation, and is probably preferable to simple oil and turpentine, though more troublesome to prepare at first.

When the cloth is dry, cut it into squares, and attach a small eyelet or loop to the four corners of each square, and put them aside for use.

When the hay is cut down, and there is a prospect of a shower, or of a heavy dew, throw it hastily into cocks, or even rude heaps, spread over one of these caps, pinning down each corner with a pointed stick put through the loops. Some recommend sewing small stones in bags and fastening them permanently to each corner of the cap, so that it can be thrown quickly over the hay, without stopping to pin it down. This is preferable on one account—the weights will keep the cloth stretched when the heap settles. The main objection is that the covers would frequently be lifted off by the wind unless the weights were quite heavy, in which case the caps would be troublesome to carry about or pack away. We suggest instead of sticks or fixed weights, to make up a lot of separate weights, and to attach to each of these a small hook made by bending a wire. These could be carried in a basket, and hooked into the cap as wanted. Prepared in any of these ways, we are satisfied that hay caps are a cheap, economical thing, that should be provided by every farmer. They are convenient not only for hay-cocks, but for throwing over grain shooks, heaps of fruit, &c. It is well to have one or two of large size, to cover loads of hay or grain

and to throw over implements and even animals requiring temporary protection from rain or dew.

TIM BUNKER'S VIEW OF THE BIRD LAW.

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass left Hookertown, for the commercial metropolis, at the tender age of sixteen, thinking that his salvation would be effected, and his fortune made forever, if he could find a situation as clerk in a dry good store. He found in the city the object of his lofty ambition, and, after a little roughing it, was duly installed as errand boy and professor of all small jobs, in a respectable establishment in Broadway. At the age of twenty-one, Jeremiah is a clerk with a salary, in the establishment where he began his mercantile life; a youth of promise in the esteem of his friends, and not slow in his own estimation. In May he took it into his head to visit his country cousins in Hookertown, and to regale himself a little with country sports.

Nothing seemed better adapted to his tastes than gunning, and he accordingly brought up from the city a fowling-piece, that he might carry out his deadly intent. He had seen certain brave and chivalrous souls returning from the Jerseys, dressed with hunting cap and coat, and ornamented with powder flask, shot bag and game pouch, the very pictures of genteel recreation.

So the first morning after he had surprised Hookertown with his advent, he girdled on his shooting toggery, and military weaponry, determined to make the birds of his native parish smell gunpowder and bite the dust. He had some obscure recollections that there was a prejudice against birds among the farmers, on account of their pulling up corn, and thought he should be performing a very good deed, as well as exhibiting his own prowess by destroying them. His whole memory of country life had become exceedingly impaired by his city residence, and he delighted to show his ignorance of country life by asking questions upon topics that he was thoroughly instructed in when he was a boy of ten upon the farm.

Passing Deacon Smith's orchard, Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, merchant of the city of New-York, spied a robin red-breast, singing away right merrily, with his bill in the air, as if his whole soul was exhaling in the melody. Beneath, in a fork of the tree was his mate, with a nest full of birdlings, and surely a happier family group was not to be found anywhere in the country. Bang went the gun of Mr. Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, and that morning song was ended. It was owing entirely to the sportsman's inexperience, that a husband and lover was not also ended, and a whole brood bereaved of their natural protector. The report of the gun brought out Deacon Smith before the heroic Mr. Sparrowgrass had time to reload his piece, and make a demonstration upon the mother, who was fluttering and crying in a state of great apprehension in the tree tops. Jerry knew the Deacon as well as any boy knows his seniors in a country church that he has always attended, but this morning affected

ignorance, both of the deacon and his robins.

"My dear sir, will you have the kindness to inform me what species of bird this is. I am making a collection of the feathered tribes for my *her barium*, and should like to add this specimen to my list."

"This bird," replied the Deacon, "is known as the Condor of the Andes, the same kind that sometimes carries off calves."

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass, merchant of New-York city, did not stop to finish loading his gun, but sloped in the most expeditious manner.

He crossed the road and struck into the cow pasture of Tim Bunker, thinking less probably of his *her barium*, and scientific attainments, than before he shot at the robin. Here he found birds more plenty than he had ever known them in his boyhood. A statute of Connecticut, enacted a few years since, which prohibits shooting certain varieties of birds upon another's land, under a heavy penalty, proves a very efficient protection, and the birds have multiplied wherever the citizens have put it in force. Timothy Bunker, Esq., being a justice of the peace, and arriving at the honor somewhat late in life, had zealously enforced the law in his neighborhood, not only to maintain the dignity of the law, but to protect his own fields against the depredations of the insects. Though a very conservative man he could see the benefits of the law, and promptly warned off all intruders from his wood and swamp pastures, where the birds loved to congregate.

Jeremiah Sparrowgrass was first saluted by a Bobolink from the stake of a rail fence: "Link, link-ee, wink, wink-ee, sweetch, sweetch-ee-ee, wee, wee-ee-ee-ee." His fire brought down poor Bob O'Lincoln, a wounded dying bird, and waked up Tim Bunker, who happened to be in the adjoining field planting corn. The genteel merchant in pursuit of country pleasures, was just bagging his game when Esq. Bunker came up. Sparrowgrass had only got as far as "My dear sir will you have the kindness" in his stereotyped speech of enquiry, when he was interrupted.

Why Jerry is this you, out here in Hookertown again, with your gun, killing our birds. You ought to be ashamed of yourself to shoot a poor skunk black-bird. What harm has he ever done you. His song is a little crooked I allow, but cold lead is not the stuff to straighten it with. It is the same song the Almighty *gin* him to sing and he has as good a right to sing it as you have to measure tape. It is a most inhuman thing to kill birds when they are laying their eggs, and hatching their young. Besides, Jerry, we've got a law against it, and all good citizens ought to obey the law. The birds are the best friends the farmer has, and we have learned better than to kill the crows, as we used to when they pulled the corn. Now Jerry, put up your shooting iron, and go straight home to widow Sparrowgrass's, and if you shoot another bird in these parts I'll have you fined before night."

Mr. Jeremiah Sparrowgrass withdrew immediately, being particularly disgusted that

an old farmer should call a Broadway merchant "Jerry," and very much out of humor with the Connecticut Bird Law. The statute however is likely to stand for some years to come.—[Ed.]

HYBRIDIZING OF PLANTS.

This subject is yearly attracting more attention among cultivators, and has already been turned to profitable account in the production of some of our finest varieties of fruit and vegetables. Every plant seems to be endowed by the Creator with a capacity for almost unlimited improvement. At least, the limits of perfection have not yet been reached, and those who have made this matter their study, have the most faith in the improvement of plants. The amateur, from his extensive acquaintance with varieties, knows what is wanted in a given fruit, and can go to work intelligently to produce a new variety, that shall possess the desideratum. Nature has set the limits to his efforts, and wisely directs him to the points where he may make improvements. An apple may not be crossed upon a pear, so as to produce a new fruit, having the qualities of both the parents. But one variety of pear may be crossed upon another variety, so as to produce a new fruit, that shall not only have certain qualities of the respective stocks, from which it was taken, but certain original qualities, unlike any other variety. Fruit trees are improveable in the time of their coming into bearing, and in the character of their wood and foliage, in the time of ripening their fruits, in their size, appearance and quality. We have no one pear that unites in itself every desirable quality. And if we had such a pear for the summer months, we should want to produce another equally good for each season of the year, so that all the circling months should bring their tribute of perfect fruit to reward the skill and industry of man.

Some pear trees, which produce very fine fruit, are very slow growers, and come into bearing very late. It would be a desirable thing to produce another variety, with all their good qualities, making wood rapidly and producing fruit in five years from the bud, instead of fifteen. The Seckle is perhaps the highest flavored of pears, but it is a slow grower, and the fruit is very small. If we could have a seedling Seckle, that would retain all the flavor of its parent, and give us the rapid growth of the Bartlett, its early bearing, and the size of its fruit, it would be a great improvement. The Doyenne d'ete is the earliest of our summer pears, but it is small. Could its size be doubled, it would be a great addition to our summer fruits. The months of August, September, October, and November, are already well supplied with excellent pears. Fine winter pears, that ripen with little trouble and prolong their season into the spring months, are still scarce. Pears ripening very early or very late should now receive the attention of our best cultivators. We have not a few amateurs in this country, who are giving special attention to this fruit. They are producing new seedlings from fruits that were carefully

crossed under their own supervision, and patiently testing their qualities. It is a work of years to produce a new pear, to test the qualities of its wood and fruit, so as to give an intelligent opinion of its whole character, but there is no field of study and labor more inviting to a gentleman of intelligence and wealth, who can give it his personal attention.

Some errors prevail upon the hybridizing of plants, which it is worth while to correct. It is not uncommon to hear farmers asserting, that potatoes will mix by being planted together. They believe that a white potato planted near a red one, would be likely to impart something of its qualities to its neighbor, and that the produce of either variety would not henceforth be true to its kind. But there can be no mixing of plants by this method. The pollen of one variety would affect the blossom of another, and the seeds formed from the impregnated blossom would produce potatoes of a new kind. And this is the reason why such a great variety of potatoes will come of the seeds taken from a single potato ball. All our first seedlings are produced in this way, and, so far as we have learned, have been the result of chance crossing. All plants and vegetables of the same genus, whose period of blossoming is at the same date, are susceptible of hybridization, in intermixture, by means, and through the agency of blossoms, and in no other way. The pistils of the blossoms of one variety, receive the fertilizing pollen from the stamens of another, and the seed which matures, necessarily contains the germ of the variety with which it has become impregnated, by the intermixture.

The knowledge of this law of hybridizing is as necessary to retain old varieties in their purity, as it is to originate new varieties. The Melons, Squashes and Cucumbers, are continually degenerating, from the ignorance or carelessness of this law. If you have a desirable vine of Squash, it is a matter of great importance to retain pure seed for another year. This can only be done with some care and pains taking. The process is so simple that an intelligent child can understand it, and attend to the work of crossing. On the vine of the Squash you will observe in the female blossom, the young Squash already formed before the blossom opens. You can easily tell, by observation when this blossom is to open. On the morning of the day it unfolds, take a piece of lace and completely cover the blossom, so as to cut off the access of all insects. The lace may be made into a little bag, with a string to draw up the mouth closely. When the blossom unfolds look for a male blossom, which has been similarly guarded, and with a camel's hair pencil bring some of its pollen, and apply to the pistil of the female flower. Replace the lace, and in a short time the corolla will close of itself, and the bag can be removed. The work is done. Mark the specimens of fruit thus treated by sticking down a stake. You will find them true to their kind. This, of course, is some trouble, but what cultivator that appreciates his calling, will refuse to take it in order to have genuine seed.—[Ed.]

IRRIGATION.

With the wane of our forests, our summers are becoming so dry that irrigation is beginning to command the attention of our farmers. The need of it is already felt in pasture, mowing land, and cultivated fields, almost every summer. Many parts of our country abound in hills and vallies, brooks, and springs, and large tracts of land could be watered in the driest time, at comparatively small expense. A perfect system of irrigation for a large farm, of course involves a large outlay, and no man will venture upon it without first convincing himself that it will pay. But there are particular fields on very many of our farms, where the experiment might be tried at small expense. Here is a field with a copious spring on the highest part, that runs off into the neighboring wood without any perceptible benefit to anything. It might easily be enlarged, so as to hold a considerable body of water for a fountain head. Then, narrow channels might be dug from it, to convey the water into all parts of the field whenever it was needed. These small ditches could be made with the plow, and would soon turf over so as to produce grass. Such a small stream of water turned upon a gravelly knoll, or pasture, would produce a wonderful result.

In another part of the farm there is a brook that might be dammed, and form a large pond. It overlooks perhaps half of the farm, and could readily be turned upon it through the proper channels. At a short distance from this brook, there is a hill on which a reservoir might be built to distribute water over the whole farm. Its waters are abundant enough to do its own pumping, and the reservoir can be kept full with only the expense of pipe and a force pump to be worked by the stream. This we are persuaded would pay upon some farms.

With a full supply of water for irrigation, crops would be greatly increased. Some pastures could be made to double their amount of grass, by this process alone. Corn perhaps suffers less than any other crop from drought, but what a change would it bring over your corn field, withering and twisting in the July heats, could you turn a stream of water upon its thirsting roots. Drought often shortens the crop of corn in particular fields, one quarter, one third, one half. There are few seasons in which irrigation would not greatly increase the crop. We throw out these suggestions to incite our readers to look over their farms, and see what waste water can be turned to good account.

The irrigation of mowing lots from the wash of roads is so easy, that no farmer has an excuse for omitting it. Yet, even this easiest form of irrigation, and fertilizing is overlooked. A field, lying on the lower side of a descending highway, can be very much benefitted by opening culverts in the wall, for the passage of the water made by heavy rains. The wash of highways is valuable, not only for its water, but for the fertilizing materials it contains.

The soil of which the road is composed is ground into an exceedingly fine and impal-

pable powder, by the continual passage of animals and vehicles over it. The finest parts of this soil are carried off from descending roads, by every shower, and unless watched by the cultivator, will be landed in the adjacent swamp or pond, or thrown into the stone heap or briar hedge, at the foot of the hill. This fine dust also contains considerable portions of the droppings of horses and cattle, that are continually traveling over it. This, especially in the vicinity of cities and villages, renders the wash a good manure, that ought to be as carefully looked after as the contents of the barn yard. If conducted at short intervals upon the adjacent fields, it would keep them in good condition. It is by timely attention to these small items of economy, that the farmer succeeds in his business. Gather up the fragments that nothing be lost.—[Ed.]

POTATOES—HOW PLANTED IN SOUTHERN NEW-JERSEY—CONDITION OF OTHER CROPS, &c.

From a correspondent's letter dated at Woodstown, Salem Co., N. J., May 20th, we make the following extracts:

The weather for the past and present week is all that the farmer could desire, though perhaps a fine, warm shower would be advantageous. The work of the present is chiefly planting potatoes—a crop much depended upon in some years, though the present low prices will have some influence upon the amount of surface planted this year. Two or three have finished this work, but the majority have the greater part of their planting yet to do.

The methods of preparing the soil, putting in the seed, &c., are various—the following three are the most common:

First.—The ground is plowed to a good depth some four or five weeks previous to planting, thus allowing it time to settle so as to plow better the second time. At the time of planting, a coating of manure, say from 12 to 20 loads per acre, is spread evenly over the ground. From 10 to 14 loads of marl per acre are now spread over the manure, thus fitting the ground for the last plowing and the reception of the seed. The potatoes selected for planting are about the size of a hen's egg, and are cut in from two to four pieces, and dropped in every third furrow of this plowing. Some rake all the manure into the potato furrow, but this practice is going into disuse, each furrow being allowed the benefit of its own manure. I consider this method a very good one, and more expeditious than any other where the two manures are used.

Second.—The ground is first served with the manure and then plowed, after which it is marked off into rows three feet apart with the plow, and the potatoes dropped as before, covering first with marl and then with a furrow thrown over both.

Third.—The ground is prepared as in the second method, and the potatoes dropped in every third furrow, and a man follows with a horse and cart, and applies the manure.

Most farmers have planted their corn, but

some who were particularly anxious to be forward, and who planted before the ground was sufficiently warm and dry, now have the pleasure of a second planting, thus giving their less aspiring neighbors an opportunity of finishing before them. Our corn, planted a week ago, is now coming above ground.

The Growing Crops.—Wheat has improved very much within the past month, but the crop cannot be more than an average. Grass is very promising, and if nothing unforeseen occurs to cut it short, there will be a heavy crop. Oats begin to thrive, they having had a stand still during the cold wet weather of the first of the month. More than an average amount were sown. Apple and other fruit trees bloomed out very freely, and there is a fair prospect of a good crop of all varieties. Many young fruit trees were either killed or very much injured by the severity of the past winter.

PETIT.

TURNIP GROWING—A FARMER'S EXPERIENCE.

The importance of turnips as a field crop, and the approach of the season of planting, induces us to devote considerable space to articles on this subject. We give here the experience of Mr. Josiah Bennett, of Westmoreland, as communicated to the N. E. Farmer. Mr. B. says: Last spring I manured thoroughly one acre and five-eighths of ground and planted the same with corn; at my last hoeing I sowed my turnip seed broadcast, after having plowed lightly between my corn rows. The time of sowing was some time during the first week in July. In the fall I harvested from that field one hundred and nine bushels of the soundest corn which I have seen for many years, and quite late, just before the ground froze. I gathered in my turnip crop from the one and five-eighths acres, which measured, as I stored them away in the cellar, two hundred and twenty-six bushels. I had also two cart-loads of extra pumpkins on the land. I had another small spot of ground measuring seventy-one square rods, which I sowed to wheat; that I harvested sometime in the fore part of August, which, when threshed, measured ten bushels of good wheat. Immediately after the wheat was cut I turned under the stubble, and after smoothing the ground I mixed turnip seed with my grass seed, and sowed broadcast. I sowed the small field on the 15th of August. I gave this land a sprinkling of ashes at the time of sowing my last seed, and harvested from it seventy-four bushels of turnips, of the best quality that I ever saw, and they have so been considered by others who have used them for the table. My kind of turnip is the flat English. The principal use which I have made of my turnip crop has been feed for my cattle; I think much of the crop for that purpose. I consider it a great saving of fodder, and I have had some very fine stock which I have exhibited in various fairs, and nearly all the extra keeping of the same has been turnips, which I cut with a root cutter. The grass seed sown with the turnips came up very even, and was when small just shaded enough to preserve the root in a vigor-

ous state, and when I last saw the grass before the snow fell I thought it looked the best and bid the fairest for a good crop the next season of any which I have ever had. I think land seeded in this way far better than to stock down in the Spring with oats, which I find a very exhausting crop.

In the season of 1854, I found toward the last of June, that I had a small portion of mowing land which was so bound out that there was no promise of a crop of hay, not even to be worth mowing. I plowed up ninety-two square rods of this land, and spread on it twelve loads of compost manure, about the 12th day of July. On the 25th day of July, 'wet or dry,' I sowed my turnip seed, and harvested from that field three hundred bushels of turnips. I mixed my grass with the turnip seed as above stated. Last haying season I cut the finest crop of herd's grass on the same land, which I ever had from any other method of stocking down. The quantity of turnip seed sown by me is at the rate of one pound to the acre.

CORN—STARTING EARLY—PROTECTING.

The following hints are given by the Granite Farmer: The most sure way to have the seed come up, and do well, is first to manure and prepare the ground well—plant good seed, clean as it came from the cob. This never fails with me; all variations from this have failed under different circumstances.

To prevent the seed being destroyed by the hens.—The pig, with a full belly, will never root around; the hen, with a full crop, will not scratch the ground. Therefore—when my hens are disposed to scratch, I call them to the barn, and give them as much corn as they will eat, for which they always sing to me a merry tune, and lay a whole hat full of eggs.

To prevent crows from pulling corn.—I scatter corn in the field broadcast, which they feed upon and leave the seed. If I have too much company by my liberality, I soak the corn in strychnine and hot water. Last spring, after scattering half a bushel of corn soaked in this way, I picked up forty-two dead crows, and how many more went off feeling 'kind o' sick,' I am not able to state.

Wire and Grub worms are more difficult customers to deal with—for any poison used for their destruction, is always absorbed by the soil, which is a sure protection to them. I have never found a sure remedy for these pests, and can only secure my seed by planting enough for their wants and mine too, and if they get more than their share, I plant new hills a few inches from the old ones thus destroyed, and 'thin out' at second hoeing.

Those who are vain of fine dress are trying to be peacocks.

He who has a friend bears only half his own griefs.

A gem uncut is of no use; so a man untaught is stupid.

STATE AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITIONS 1856.

Name.	Where Held.	Date.
Tennessee,	Nashville	June 4—5
Vermont,	Burlington	Sept. 9—12
New-Jersey,	Newark	" 10—12
Canada East,	Three Rivers	" 10—12
Virginia,	Wheeling Island	" 17—19
Ohio,	Cleveland	" 22—26
Canada West.	Kingston	" 23—26
Am. Pomological Society	Rochester	" 24
Illinois	Alton	" 30 Oct. 3
Michigan	Detroit	" 30 " 3
New-York	Watertown	" 30 " 3
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	" 30 " 3
California	San Jose	Oct. 7—9
Connecticut	New-Haven	" 7—10
United States	Philadelphia	" 7—10
Wisconsin	Milwaukee	" 8—10
Iowa	Muscatine	" 8—10
New-Hampshire	"	" 8—10
North Carolina	Raleigh	" 14—17
Georgia	Atlanta	" 20—23
Indiana	Indianapolis	" 20—23
Maine	"	" 28—31
Alabama	Montgomery	Nov. 11—14
South Carolina	Columbia	" 11—14

The above list will be extended in our next issue, and a list of county exhibitions added. We shall be thankful for any information as to times and places of holding State and County Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibitions, throughout the country.

INQUIRIES ABOUT WESTERN AND SOUTHERN FARM LANDS.

Perhaps, on no single subject do we receive more letters of inquiry, than about the best locations at the West for Eastern farmers desiring to change their residence, and also for persons coming from Europe to settle in this country. We cannot undertake to reply to these letters in detail, or we should be under the necessity of adding to our office a "Western Land Department." Our series of articles in progress of publication headed "Do Eastern Farmers better their condition by going West," will develop some valuable information, and we shall willingly devote some portion of our space to the statements of those now residing at the West, if conveying reliable valuable information, and not written by those who have "an ax to grind." In this connection we refer to the advertisement of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, in another column.

Several inquire about Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, Tennessee, &c. Here is a sample of their letters:

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

I should be obliged if I could obtain through the columns of your reliable journal, some trustworthy information respecting the lands and localities around, say Chattanooga, and other parts of East Tennessee. Is the climate good, healthy, and suitable for Northern men, or persons who have delicate lungs, or affections of the throat, to settle in? Are the ordinary winters much milder than what we usually experience in New-York or Connecticut, and are the summers much warmer? I should judge from the high situation, that the summer season there would not be hotter or more oppressive.

Is there any locality in that region that is preferable as a residence to another, taking into consideration its healthfulness, soil, water, and waste lands, &c. &c. &c.

climate least changeable, and any other cause or reason to make it a desirable place to live in. Its nearness to markets for sale of farm produce, eligibility for farming, and what would pay best to raise in that locality. What is the best and cheapest way to reach East Tennessee, say from New-York or Philadelphia?

If there are any readers of the Agriculturist that can give the desired information, I, for one, should deem it a favor.

Respectfully yours,
GEO. DAVIS, New-York.

DO OUR EASTERN FARMERS BETTER THEIR CONDITION BY REMOVING TO THE WEST.

NUMBER THREE.

The full answer to this question must greatly depend upon the condition of the farmer *as he is* in the Eastern States. As a general rule, a man comfortably situated, on a good farm, in easy circumstances, thriving a little every year, in good society, and in the prime of life, seldom betters his condition *all round*, by pulling up stakes and going into a new country, where he must, with his family, become inured to a new climate, different modes of cultivation, new and strange society, associations, and all that sort of thing. It depends much also, on the *family* of the farmer, as to the policy or expediency of removing from an old home to a new one. If he have numerous children and a small farm, he may by its sale, and laying out its avails, with judgment at the West, obtain much more land, and by the increased room for their labor, keep his sons about him, and so remain with, or near his children. This, indeed, is one of the great incentives for so many men with moderate means going to the West. They buy land cheap; by cultivation it rises in value, and they thus largely increase their possessions. Yet the increase of worldly goods is not, or should not be, the *sole* object of our toil and exertion in life. The enjoyments of life in a rational way as we go along is a thing to be considered. We have known families who had good homes in the old States, to sell out and go to the West, where they made good locations, so far as land and common advantages were concerned, but who, by sickness and death, became decimated, and amid new society and associations were literally strangers in a strange land ever afterwards. And yet we know many others, partly by their own good judgment, and partly by good luck—for there is *some* luck in the world—rapidly increased their fortunes by emigration.

The family proposing to emigrate should, in the first place, take a deliberate, accurate survey of their present condition where they are. If they are on a poor farm—hopelessly poor—where they can but just bring the year about, better to sell off their odd traps and leave it altogether, than to toil on for nothing. We have known men to stay on an old worthless place for a long life, and die poor at last, because they could not sell it, when half the labor applied elsewhere would have made them rich—a poor farm, with a natu-

rally poor soil, not accessible to cheap manures is dear at a gift. Yet poor lands, near good markets, *with* cheap manures, have made many a farmer's fortune, and much quicker than by the purchase of new lands at the West. Large crops don't always pay over small crops. The market, its distance more or less, and the costs of getting products to them, govern the thing more surely. We know men who have bought the poor lands of New Jersey and Long Island—such lands as no one would take as a gift, if they lay in the Western States, and get rich on them. Their crops were not large, yet they brought high prices, and the results of their annual labors yielded good profits; while the man who had migrated to the West and bought cheap, rich lands, toiled on for years, just making both ends meet, with large crops, and barely living amid the greatest abundance, so far as agricultural produce was concerned.

Another thing: men emigrating to a new place, should well know into what kind of a neighborhood, or people they go. They should select such localities as are peopled by those of their own modes of thought, education, and association. Then they find their society agreeable. For an educated, intelligent family, to go into a neighborhood of ignorant, uneducated people, whose modes of life, habits, and thought, are widely different from their own, is a wretched sacrifice of all the mental and social enjoyments of life—a mistake hard to be rectified, and frequently fatal to all their future happiness. Hence, the value of colonization in the new States. We can point to towns in the Western States, first settled in colonies, with people of a like range of thought, habits, and education, which are almost half a century in advance of an adjoining town, in the value of their real estate, and all that makes life desirable to the cultivated mind. Every western traveler can see these differences as plainly as he can see the land before him.

There is, on the whole, no fixed rule to govern the expediency of leaving our old home for a new one. The man, or the family proposing it, should deliberately and intelligently survey his and their own present condition, not only in regard to his landed estate, but all the social advantages or disadvantages which surround them. If they resolve that they will remove, don't do it at a venture. Coolly and deliberately examine the region where you propose to go; look at its advantages, then weigh its disadvantages. Examine railroad routes, the market towns, the topographical situation of the country, its water, general health—everything in fact bearing upon human industry and its rewards, as well as the social condition, education of the people, and the institutions. Full half the misfortunes growing out of a new home, and a change of place, have arisen from a want of consideration, and examination in these particulars—a leap in the dark in fact. We would not discourage emigration under favorable circumstances. We know those who have in every way greatly increased their worldly fortunes and happiness in so doing; but we earnestly advise all who con-

template it to *be in no haste*, and *well consider* every subject connected with so momentous a revolution in their affairs, as that of leaving a good home for an untried one. It may settle the question of a whole life time of contentment, or of misery. We will speak of some States and localities in our next.—[Ed.]

DOG-BREAKING.

A work has just been published, which relates to dog-breaking. Our opinion is, that the best way to break a dog is to break his neck.

So says an exchange, and pretty nearly so say we. 'There are exceptions to all general rules' runs the adage, and so there are exceptions noted in *our* anti-dog-law creed—but not very many, as they go little farther than shepherd dogs, rat-terriers, and a very few of the Newfoundland and watch dogs. As if to give emphasis if not venom to these lines, just now there are half-a-dozen, more or less, of miserable worthless curs running at large in the street before our window. What they are good for, or were created for, it would puzzle the most acute investigator of natural history to determine, yet they are boarded and lodged by somebody—ten to one by those who can least afford it. We doubt not they are better cared for than their owners' children. Such is usually the case.

Here it is again. Just as we finished the above sentence, a gentleman from 'up the Hudson River' called to say that if any body wants a pure bred Southdown Buck and Ewe, he can supply them at the cost in England. He would on no account part with these fine animals "but for the dogs." He says "he has to put them in a close room 365 nights in a year, and watch them or keep them near the house by day, all on account of the dogs, which have put an end to sheep-raising in his neighborhood."

Just so it is over half the country, and this too, when sheep and lambs of fair quality are selling at \$5 to \$10 per head, in this city to-day. We are not "rabid" though we sometimes get slightly 'mad' when we think only of the millions of curs, *worthless* curs, running at large in this country. Perhaps half a dozen scars left on our body by dog-teeth, have something to do with our "feelings." Perhaps even so many hundreds of dollars out of pocket by sheep-killers slightly affect us. However that may be, we are dog-killers *con amore*. We keep on hand a bottle of strychnine, and pieces of meat to put it in. We have a capital shooting-iron, that never fails when in our hands. The dog that visits our premises, "muzzled or unmuzzled," may want help to get away. A fair warning this, to dogs that can read. Those that can't must depend upon their "owners," if so be that any one of them knows how to read, and yet does not know better than to own a dog, or at least to let him run round the neighborhood.

What we practice we preach to others.—[Ed.]

"*You're doing a smashing business,*" as the gardener said to the hailstones.



WILLIS' PATENT STUMP PULLER.

Above we present a cut of a Stump Puller which has made some noise, and according to report has done considerable execution. We have not seen the machine in actual operation, but have examined a working model, and should judge from this that it will do the work effectually and economically. For particulars see the advertisement.

OUR WATERLOO CORRESPONDENCE.

CORN CULTIVATION—HOW TO GET HORACE GREENLEY'S \$50 PREMIUM—THE NEW-YORK STATE SOCIETY'S PREMIUMS TOO COMPLICATED—NEW-YORK AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

[We are sorry the letter below did not reach us in time for the May issue. However, several of the hints on Corn Culture are yet in season. The criticisms upon the State Society's Premiums have weight, but we are right glad of a movement in the right direction, and we confidently hope that a number of those who can afford it, are already preparing to compete for the Premium and that much good will result. We are always glad to hear from our aged correspondent S. W. (*N'importe.*) We put him down as one of the most thorough go-ahead, reasoning practical farmers of the country.—ED.]

Editor American Agriculturist:

While Horace Greely offers the very tempting premium of \$50 to the farmer's boy who will grow the best acre of corn the current season, our State Society, by the multiplicity of the costly experiments required to take a premium of \$75, cannot fail to defeat the end it is so desirable to attain, to wit: to ascertain the peculiar manorial requirements of our great indigenous Cereal, Indian Corn! Would it not have been far more judicious to have confined the first year's experiments to something less than 19 quarter of an acre plots; each to be manured entirely different, the one from the other, except the 1st and the 19th plots, which are to have no manure at all. I would ask how far will the \$75 premium go towards paying for the manorial amendments required by the programme. What dependance can be made on experiments begun under the stimulus of such a paltry premium; no poor man certainly can attempt it, but if he does, his experiments must be necessarily loose and unreliable. It was not thus that the great and important Rothamsted experiments were made, to the truth and correctness of which even the critical Liebig bears unwilling testimony; and their

undoubted correctness has been subsequently corroborated by the experiments of the late indefatigable Dr. Pusey. One of these experiments alone, that of ascertaining the true chemical requirements of the wheat plant, must have cost thousands of dollars, but the result which will grow out of this discovery, is yet to save millions to the wheat growing farmer, by enabling him to treat his wheat fallow with the right instead of the wrong manure.

Had Mr. Greely given out his generous premium last fall, in time for the boy to plow and trench in deeply plenty of long unwashed stable manure, the competition for his premium would probably have been greater, as no heavy soil can be prepared in the Spring for a premium corn crop the same season, and a soil must be at least as aluminous as a Mississippi bottom, to insure a maximum crop in a dry season. An acre of well drained River or creek intervalle, will now probably take Mr. Greely's premium, because there nature has done the preliminary work, in depositing a finely comminuted soil, rich in organic matter, which needs no chemical amendment that stable manure or Peruvian guano will not supply, and no mechanical aid that cannot be supplied by the plow and harrow in the Spring.

It is passing strange that there are so many *soi disant* farmers who dispute the efficacy of fall plowing in ameliorating a clay loam. Such a soil, if ridged with spade or plow in the fall, is like an ash heap in the Spring, while that which is thrown up after the frost is out of the ground in the Spring will be hard to reduce to a pulverulent state, even if it is more than two-thirds sand and vegetable matter.

I have grown corn to a small extent and tried many experiments in its culture for more than 30 consecutive years. In the extra hot drought of 1854 every farmer's corn leaves were rolled up like whips, while mine on a clay loam did not even curl, owing to the trenching in long manure late the previous fall. Taking off the suckers enables the corn to perfect its ears nearly two week's earlier, besides remedying the evil of close planting.

For a premium crop I would plant in drills 3 1-2 feet apart, and thin out to 9 inches in the drill; if the suckers are not taken off it should stand a foot apart in the drill. In hills plant 3 feet each way, 3 or 4 stalks to the hill, these to stand 2 or 3 inches apart in the hill; cultivate as level as possible, and use no plow after the corn is knee high, but the hoe or cultivator often. In a hot season, Ohio small cob dent corn would give the greatest yield, but the stalk is inedible and it has no suckers.

It is now well ascertained by long, careful, and varied experiments, that the specific manure for the wheat plant is nitrogen, in its compound of ammonia or nitric acid. But we have every reason to believe that Indian Corn delights in a soil as rich in carbon as in nitrogen, and we have yet to learn from well instituted careful experiments, whether this carbonaceous matter in the soil, is necessary to the Corn plant as a source of carbonic acid, or only as a loosener and an absorbent to aid the soil in retaining that continued moisture required by the astounding rapid growth of this King among our cereals. I have often had to remark during the drought of a hot summer, that the carbonaceous manure placed deep and now decomposing in the soil, while it supplied both ammonia and carbonic acid to the roots of the plant, it also by the water it had retained, also performing the office of irrigation.

Thanks to the Farmers and villagers of our South towns, as intelligent as they are generous and wealthy, for their enterprise in obtaining a charter for an Agricultural College in that town, as beautiful and rurally matchless as its name, Ovid, is poetic and classical. May the experimental farm of that Institution be to the Empire State, if not to the whole Union, what Rothamsted has been and now is to England; then we may not only hope to learn the physical and chemical requirements of Indian Corn, but also the secret why in a soil rich in carbon, the corn ear and stalk alike increase, when the wheat plant on the same soil will only increase in straw at the expense of the cereal product.

S. W.
WATERLOO, May 11, 1856.

CORN—THE PRINCIPAL VARIETIES DESCRIBED.

We give below a description of the several kinds of Indian Corn more generally cultivated. This chapter will be valuable to preserve for future reference. It is mostly compiled from the Transactions of the New-York State Agricultural Society.

The principal varieties of Indian Corn, cultivated in the United States, are distinguished by the number of rows or grains in the cob, and the color, shape, and size of the kernels. They may be classified as follows :

YELLOW CORN.

The colors of the varieties coming under this head are dependent mainly on the shades of the oil, as seen through the epidermis or hull.

1. *Golden Sioux or Northern Flint Corn.*—Derived from the Sioux Indians, in Canada; having a large cob, rather short as to length, with twelve rows of moderate sized grains, abounding in oil, and is regarded as one of the best varieties for fattening animals, or for human food. By skilful tillage, 130 bushels have been raised to the acre, weighing 9,216 lbs. in the ear; when dry, 75 lbs. of ears gave a bushel when shelled. Several valuable hybrid varieties have been produced between the Sioux and King Phillip, the Gourd-seed and the Sioux.

2. *King Phillip or Eight-rowed Yellow Corn.*—So called after the celebrated Indian chief of the Wampanoags of that name, from which tribe the seed was obtained. The ears, which contained only eight rows, are longer than those of the Golden Sioux, and it will yield about the same quantity of oil. It is a hardy plant, which belongs to a high latitude, grows to about nine feet in height, stalks small, ears from ten to fourteen inches in length, much esteemed in New England as a substantial article of food, where it has been cultivated from times anterior to the landing of the pilgrims.

3. *Canada Corn, or Eighteen-rowed Yellow.*—This corn, which is smaller, earlier, and more solid than any of the preceding, contains more oil than any other variety, except the rice corn, and the pop-corn, properly so called. It is highly valuable for fattening poultry, swine, &c., and is grown by many in gardens for early boiling or roasting, when grown. Notwithstanding it is very prolific in ears, it is seldom planted in fields, except in regions where the larger kinds will not thrive.

4. *Dutton Corn.*—A variety first brought into notice in 1818, by Mr. Samuel Dutton, of the State of Vermont. The ears of corn from which it was originally selected, on an average were from eight to twelve inches long, and contained from twelve to eighteen rows. The cob is larger, and sometimes grows to the length of fourteen or fifteen inches, but the grain is so compact upon it that two bushels of small ears have yielded five pecks of shelled corn, weighing 62 lbs. to the bushel. With proper management, an acre of ground will yield 100 to 120 bushels. As it abounds in oil, gives a good

yield, and ripens early, it has always been a favorite variety for culture in the Northern States.

5. *Southern Big Yellow Corn.*—The cob of this corn is thick and long, the grain much wider than deep, and the rows unite with each other; their sides fall off almost to a point; this gives the outside ends of the grain a circular form, which imparts to the ear an appearance somewhat resembling a fluted column. The grain contains less oil and more starch than the Northern flint kinds, yet its outward texture is somewhat flinty, solid and firm. It comes rather late into maturity, affords an abundant yield, and is much used for fattening animals; mixed with either the white gourd varieties, the yellow gourd seed is produced which is often mistaken for an original form.

6. *Southern Small Yellow Corn.*—The ears of this sort are more slender, as well as shorter, than the last named variety; the grains are smaller, though of the same form; of a deep yellow, more firm and flinty, and contain an abundance of oil, which renders it more valuable for the purpose of shipping, or for feeding to poultry or swine. Although it is less productive than the big yellow, it ripens earlier, and consequently is sooner out of the reach of the autumn frosts.

WHITE CORN.

The varieties which constitute this division are exceedingly variable, both as regards their composition and size, as well as in their yield and times of coming to maturity.

1. *Rhode Island White Flint Corn.*—The grains of this variety are about the size and shape of those of the Tuscarora corn, but differ from them in containing an abundance of a transparent and colorless oil, which may be easily seen through their clear pellucid hulls. The farinaceous parts of the grains are white, and, as the quantity of oil which they contain is large, the flour or meal is more substantial as an article of food, and less liable to ferment and become sour. In Rhode Island, where it produces an abundant yield, it is a favorite grain, and stands in high repute for human food.

2. *Southern White Flint Corn.*—The kernels of this variety are considerably smaller than those of the preceding, and much resemble them in shape; but they are more firm and solid, contain more oil, and consequently more valuable for feeding poultry and swine, and for human food. Although the cob is smaller in proportion to the size of the ears, the yield per acre is less abundant, and consequently it is but very little grown.

3. *Dutton White Flint Corn.*—A variety not differing materially from the Yellow Dutton Corn, except in the color of its kernel.

4. *Early Canadian White Flint Corn.*—Cultivated principally for early boiling or roasting while green.

5. *Tuscarora Corn.*—A variety obtained from the Tuscarora Indians in the State of New-York. The ears contain from twelve to sixteen rows of grains, which are nearly as deep as they are broad, of a dead whitish color on the extreme end, composed entirely

within of pure, white dextrine and starch, except the germs. As it contains neither gluten nor oil, it may be profitably employed in the manufacture of starch. It is much softer and better food for horses than the flinty kinds, and, if used before it becomes sour, it may be converted into an excellent bread. It is also an excellent variety for boiling, when green, or in the milky state.

6. *White Flint Corn.*—The ears of this variety contain twelve rows of rather white, roundish, thick grains, which are filled with a snowy white flour, composed principally of starch, but does not contain either gluten or oil. It is much used in some parts of the country, particularly New-Jersey, for grinding up with buckwheat, mixed in proportions of four or five to one of corn, in order to improve the color and other qualities of the buckwheat flour. As it possesses similar properties to the preceding variety, it may be profitably employed for the same purpose. It is also an excellent variety for boiling, when green.

7. *Virginia White Seed Corn.*—The ears of this corn, which are not very long, nor is the cob so long as those of the big white or yellow flint, contains from twenty-four to thirty-six rows of very long, narrow grains, so soft and open in texture that they will not bear transportation by sea, unless they are previously kiln dried, or completely excluded from the moist air. These grains at their extreme ends, are almost flat, and grow so closely together, from the cob to the surface, they produce a greater yield than any other variety, in proportion to the size of the ears. They contain more starch and less gluten and oil than those of the flint kinds, and from their softness they serve as better food for horses, but are less nourishing to poultry and swine. The color of this variety is almost white (unless it has been crossed with other kinds) which may be invariably known by a small indenture in the ends of the grain, when perfectly dried. The oily and glutinous parts of the Virginia gourd seed always occur on the sides of the elongated grains, while the starch projects quite through to their summits, and by contraction in drying, produces the pits or depressions peculiar to their ends. This variety is later ripe, though more productive than any other kind.

8. *Early Sweet Corn.*—This variety was introduced into Massachusetts in 1779, by Capt. Richard Bagnall, of Plymouth, from the country bordering on the Susquehannah, on his return from the expedition against the tribes of the six nations, under the command of Gen. Sullivan. There are two kinds of this corn: one with the cob red, and the other white. The ears are short and usually contain eight rows, the grains of which, when mature, are of a light color and become shrivelled, and appear as if they were unripe. It contains an unusually large proportion of the phosphates, and a considerable quantity of sugar and gum, though but little starch. It is extensively cultivated in the vicinity of cities for culinary purposes, and serves as a delicious food, when boiled green. Large quantities of this corn are prepared by boil-

ing and scalding, when green, separating the corn from the cob, and kiln-drying by the Shakers, for winter use. It is also preserved in its green state in tin cans, hermetically sealed. Preserved in this manner, you have apparently a fresh dish of corn at any season of the year.

Stowell's Evergreen Sweet Corn.—This is a valuable variety, and is by many esteemed the very best cultivated, especially for green fodder. It was in bad odor for a time, owing to its having been in the hands of certain speculators, who charged enormous prices for the seed, but it is now so abundant that it can be obtained generally, and at reasonable rates.

9. *Rice Corn.*—A small variety with small conical ears, the kernels terminating in short points, which give it the appearance of a burr; the kernels of the size and shape something like rice. It contains more oil and less starch than any other kind, and when ground, its meal cannot be made into bread alone, but is dry like sand. From its oily nature and peculiar size, this corn is peculiarly adapted for feeding poultry.

10. *Pearl Corn.*—Commonly called popcorn, from the fact of its being used for popping or parching, large quantities of which are sold at the railroad stations to the passengers, throughout the country. The ears of this variety are small; the grains are round, of various shades of color, the white of a pearl-like appearance, and contain with the rice corn, more oil and less starch, than any other variety. Its flavor is pleasant, when parched, for which purpose it is generally used, and it forms an excellent dish when hulled and boiled.

11. *Chinese Tree Corn.*—This variety was first brought into notice by Grant Thornburn, of Astoria, near New-York, some 12 or 15 years since. The origin of this corn, it is said, was a kernel found in a chest of tea, and from that single one was propagated. It is a pure white variety; a very handsome ear about ten inches long; ten rows; grain very closely set; long and wedge form, well filled out to the end of the cob; some of the grains slightly indented. One peculiarity of this corn is, the ears grow on the end of the branches, hence its name, "tree corn." It is said to yield from one-fourth to one-third more than the common varieties. When ground into meal it is handsomer and better flavored than the common varieties of white corn. It is also an excellent variety for making hominy, samp, &c. There are generally two ears on a stalk, and often three; sometimes there have been found four ears on a stalk, although the last mentioned number is rare.

There are many other varieties of corn, but the foregoing embrace pretty much all the varieties worthy of cultivation.

BOILING MOLASSES.—When molasses is used in cooking, it is a very great improvement to boil and skim it before you use it. It takes out the raw taste, and makes it almost as good as sugar. Where molasses is used much for cooking, it is well to prepare one or two gallons in this way at a time.

MILLET—ONE MAN'S TRIAL AND WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT IT.

Having with many others suffered from the severe drouth of 1854, in my hay crop, I was induced last Spring to procure half a bushel of millet seed. When preparing my ground for oats, I reserved one acre and a quarter for the millet. After corn planting, say about the 1st of June, I plowed the said ground again, harrowed it down, sowed my millet seed, harrowed thoroughly again, and quietly waited the result. Well, after a while the young sprouts made their appearance, looking very much like what is generally called pigeon grass. But after securing my wheat and oat harvests, I had a heavy crop to cut on my millet ground. Leaving a small piece which I had sown thinner than the rest to ripen for seed, I mowed the field and cured it as clover should always be cured—in small cocks. When sufficiently dry, I carted five heavy loads to my barn, and my horses, cows and sheep have thanked me many times for my first experiment with millet. They have all eaten it readily and greedily, and I am so highly pleased with it, that I shall sow much more this Spring.

The time for sowing should be as indicated above, when the weather is warm enough to make corn readily—from the 1st to the 15th of June—and the time of harvesting comes after the rush of other harvests is over, thus accommodating the farmer, at both periods when it wants attention. It yields seed bountifully, which makes a flour very palatable for man, and is decidedly nutritious for every animal not forgetting the fowls—they are very fond of it. I say then to my brother farmers, try a piece of millet, and I am confident that if you try it once, you will again.—Ohio Cultivator.

ANOTHER MAN'S EXPERIENCE AND OPINION OF MILLET.

Since the above was in type we have found the following, furnished to the Rural New Yorker by Mr. Thomas B. Lord, of East Bethany, N. Y. These two articles, together with the one in the *May Agriculturist*, furnish pretty complete information respecting this crop. Mr. Lord says:

I have raised millet for the last five years, chiefly for experiment. Having become convinced of its value, I last year sowed twelve acres; an acre or two was too wet, and produced nothing; the remainder was a good crop, and yielded twenty-two bushels of seed and three or four tuns of straw, to the acre. My experience has proved that it would yield from twenty to twenty-five bushels of seed and three to four tuns of straw per acre. The seed is worth nearly as much as corn to feed. The straw is worth, after threshing, about two-tuirds as much as timothy hay, is eaten by cattle or sheep more readily than hay, and if passed through a straw cutter I think it would be fully equal to it. I fed a flock of sheep last winter on millet straw after threshing, without grain—a part of which flock I sold in February, and a part recently, for the butcher. I have also fed t to milch cows with good success, the but-

ter being nearly as yellow as when they run to grass.

The soil best adapted to millet is a moist muck, but it will do nearly if not equally as well, on sward or stubble. Time of sowing, last of May or first of June. Quantity of seed, if designed to ripen, twelve quarts per acre; if designed to be cut for fodder before ripening, I would sow half a bushel. It may be cut with a grass seythe, and cured like hay, or with a cradle (if the fingers are well secured,) and after laying a day or two, bound and set in stocks.

One of my neighbors raised last season thirty bushels per acre, and fed the straw to his cattle and some young horses. He informed me the other day that he never raised a crop which did him as much good as his millet. Another neighbor has raised it for two years and fed it to his horses, and he tells me that his horses would perform the same work with half the grain that they did when fed on hay. A year ago last August, not having pasture, I fed green millet to my working oxen during seeding time. They ate it more readily than green corn stalks, and less than half the ground would supply them. They worked hard and gained flesh.

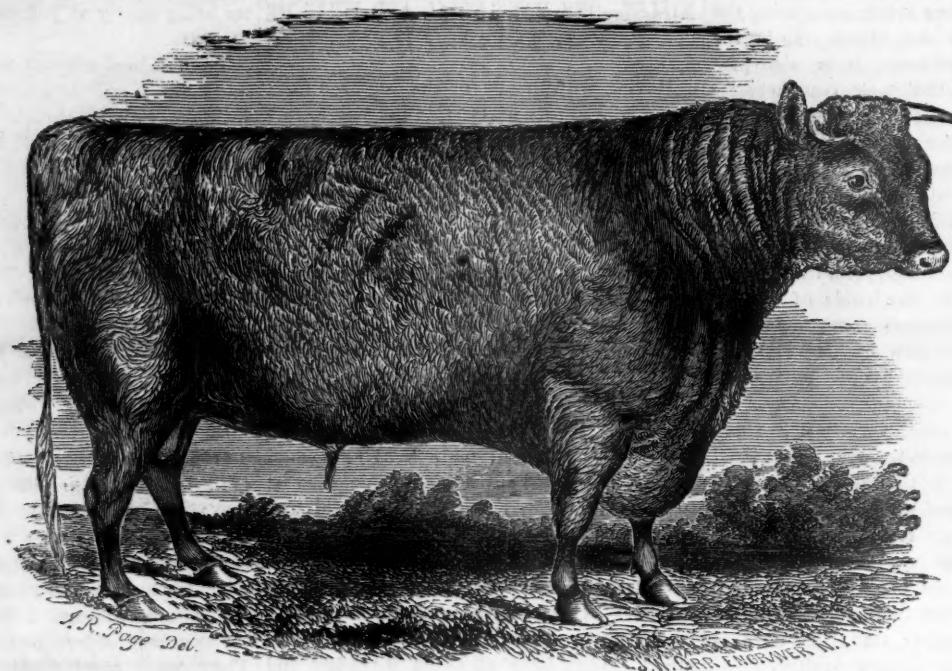
THE GRASSHOPPERS—WHERE THEY COME FROM.

We have heard and told some pretty hard grasshopper stories; one of the "last" was about those in Chautauque county, N. Y., who ate up every green thing, and according to our informant, one of them sitting upon a stump as he passed, actually asked him for a 'chaw' of tobacco he had in his mouth. Here is the very last, however, taken from the Franklin (Tenn.) Review. We give full credit. That paper says:

Our young friend R. H. Hudgens, who resides upon big Harpeth, six or seven miles above Franklin, brought into our office on Monday an apple (we don't know what else to call it,) grown upon a hickory tree, in the hollow of which were myriads of very small grasshoppers. He was fishing on the river and found the balls or apples growing upon the tree, and on opening one of them, he found it inhabited by thousands upon thousands of these little troublesome creatures.

TO PREVENT COWS FROM HOLDING UP THEIR MILK.—The following, though going the rounds credited to another paper, appeared first in the *Agriculturist*, a year or two since. It will bear repeating:—One of the best methods to prevent cows from holding up their milk, is to feed them at the time of milking. If this is done they will give down their milk freely. But if you neglect to feed them they will hold it up so that it is almost impossible to get any from them. Try the experiment of feeding them at milking.

"Rogers," said Cook one day to the wit, "how do you contrive to infuse so much iron-y into your epistolary compositions?" "I find not the least difficulty in that," replied Sam, "for I always write with a steel pen."



COMET, [162.]

Calved January, 1851. Bred by Ambrose Stevens; the property of Lindley Brothers, of West Meriden, Conn. Sire, Albert, (2); grand-sire, Baronet, (6); dam, Curly, (610); by Tremayne, (321); grandam, Young Curly, (99); by Young Sillifant, (121); great-grandam, Curly, (95), by a son of Forester, (46); great great-grandam, Tulip, bred by Richard Merson, of Brinseworthy, Devonshire. This animal was calved soon after the arrival of his dam here.

MILK FEVER IN COWS.

RESULTS OF EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist:

Your correspondent at Stamford, C. W., desires information as to the best method of treating this disease. My experience has been somewhat limited, being confined entirely to my own small stock of cows. I will give it, however, because it goes to confirm the views expressed by Mr. Lewis F. Allen, as published in your last number, and as corroborative testimony, therefore, may be considered of some value.

For nearly thirty years I have kept cows, always selecting the best milkers, and during the first few years of my experience, I lost several fine cows from this disease, which died from three to six days after bringing a calf.

Some sixteen years ago, I procured a young cow of the short-horned breed from the hand of Mr. Lewis F. Allen, which proved to be an extraordinary milker, both as to quantity and quality. From this cow I have raised several, crossing with the Ayreshire, Hereford, and native, all of which, save one, proved to be good milkers, and all very liable to this disease, and it was not until I had lost one of this stock from milk fever, that I learned that in this as well as other matters, "an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." So far as my experience goes, none but good milkers, such as secrete large quantities of milk before or immediately after calving, are much subject to the disease. After ten years I employed a farm laborer, a German by birth, who in his 'fatherland' had large experience in the management of milch cows, and to his care I committed mine. His mode

of managing them, immediately before and after calving, was somewhat as follows:

Most of my cows secreted large quantities of milk for say two weeks before calving, especially if it occurred after the grass had got a good start in the spring. These he would milk as often as once in two days for a week or two before calving, as circumstances seemed to require. After the calf was brought forth, he was very particular to prevent the cow from eating the after-birth, and for this purpose I have known him to sit up and watch all night. When the calf had taken its first meal, which it will do as soon as able to stand upon its feet, he would milk the cow perfectly clean, repeating it at least three times a day for three, four or more days, at the same time rubbing the udder with lard to prevent inflammation. After milking the cow the first time, he would give her a pailful of tepid water to drink, with perhaps a pint of corn meal, and a small handful of oil meal stirred into the water; this, with a small lock of good hay, if before grass, would be all the sustenance she would get for twenty-four hours. From that time he would gradually increase the amount and frequency of the food and drink, always taking the chill from the water for two or three days, until in the course of a week or ten days, she would be able to have full feed. If the cow should not come in until turning out to pasture, he would give the tepid mush as before stated, otherwise have the cow to regulate her own diet from the pasture.

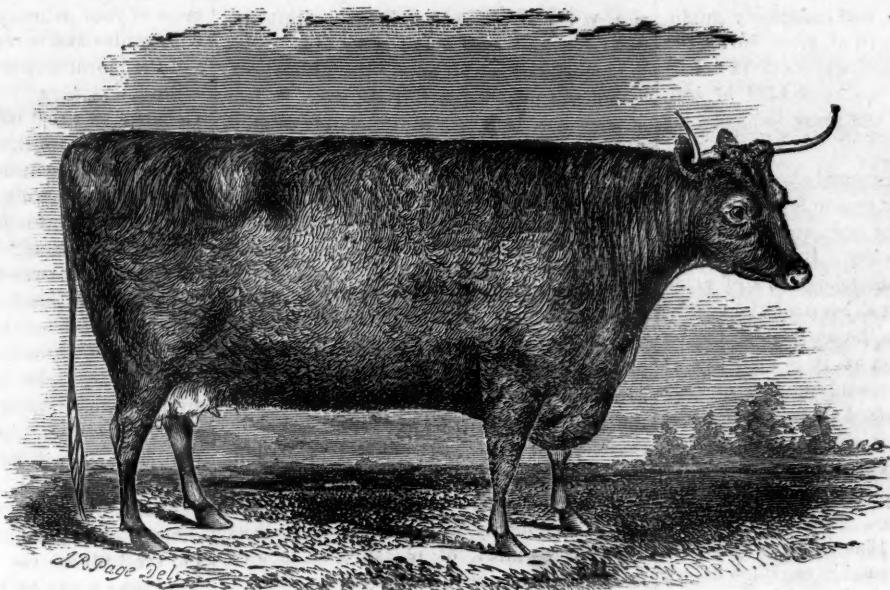
My cows have been treated in this manner ever since with entire success, and exemption from the milk fever.

BUFFALO, MAY 16, 1856.

A FARMER'S WIFE ON CHEESE-MAKING.

To make good cheese, there are several rules to be observed: first, everything used in the business should be kept as sweet and clean as possible. The night's milk should be strained in tin or brass kettles, and hung in a sweet, cool place, as milk will absorb impurities. In the morning it should be warmed and mixed with the morning's milk in your tub or whatever you make your cheese in. When ready for the rennet, the temperature should be from 80° to 84°. Put in sufficient rennet to come in 40 or 50 minutes; cover warm to prevent the cream from rising. When the curd will not adhere to your finger, then cut it with a long knife several times across; let it stand fifteen minutes; then take your dipper and turn the curd gently from top to the bottom; let it remain fifteen minutes longer, and break carefully with your hands. Place the strainer over and let the curd settle; then dip off some to warm to a natural heat. Dip off also some of the cold whey; turn on the warm and stir it with your dipper slowly. Repeat this several times. To prevent the curd settling together, it should be stirred and broken carefully and often; the temperature should be from 100° to 110°. In the course of two hours from the time you commenced warming the whey, when you can squeeze some of the curd in your hand, and it seems cooked and dry, it will do to dip into your drainer. It should then be stirred carefully to prevent adhering together, but should not be squeezed or handled roughly. The whey should work off clean, as it is very easy to waste the best part of the cheese by being in a hurry. It should strain very dry and get cool; then add five tea-cups of Liverpool

O. A.



FAIRY, [696.]

Calved in 1851; bred by George Shapland, of Oxford, (Eng.) ; imported by R. Linsley, in 1852. Sire, Baron, (4) ; grandsire, Baronet, (6) ; dam, Forester Cow, (735), by a Bull bred by Mr. Merson, and sold to Mr. Tremayne ; grandam bred by Mr. Dee, by Forester, (46.) The property of Linsley Brothers, West Meriden, Conn. This cow and her antecedents are very superior milkers.

salt to one hundred pounds of curds, stirring well in. I always sift my salt before using it. It is now ready to be put into the hoop. Let it stand half an hour before pressing. Then press lightly at first, adding to the pressure to make it firm and solid. After pressing four or five hours, it should be turned and closed; then press till the next day's cheese is ready for the hoop.

I get my cheese into the hoop about noon, allowing half a day to make a cheese. If the weather is cold, the cheese should be set by a fire to cure, as it will grow bitter standing in a cold room. There is no need of greasing the outside of a cheese which is cased. Here in Vermont we use dairy-stoves for making cheese; they are most convenient and save much labor.

I will make a few remarks on preparing rennets for mild cheese. The rennet should be one year old; as it will fetch more cheese at that age. Dairying people here kill their calves at four days old; drain out the whey from the curd, then add as much salt as there is curd; put it back into the rennet, and put them into little bags made of cotton cloth, each one separate; tie them tight and hang in a dry place to cure. The bag prevents insects working in the rennets and injuring them. When wanted for use, steep three rennets in two pails of cold water ten or twelve days; then strain it off into a jar and it is ready for use. Add salt enough to have it always in the bottom of your jar, as many people spoil a whole dairy by using rancid rennet.—Prairie Farmer.

SCRATCHING POLE.—It is related of the Rev. Sidney Smith that when on his farm, each cow and calf, and horse and pig, were in turn visited, and fed and patted, and all seemed to welcome him; he cared for their comforts as he cared for the comforts of every living being around him. He used to say "I am for all cheap luxuries, even

for animals; now all animals have a passion for scratching their backbones; they break down your gates and palings to effect this. Look! there is my universal scratcher, a sharp-edged pole, resting on a high and low post, adapted to every height, from a horse to a lamb. Even the Edinburgh Reviewer can take his turn; you have no idea how popular it is. I have not had a gate broken since I put it up. I have it in all my fields."

THREE DAILY MILKINGS DON'T PAY.

There is no doubt, we think, that cows give more milk for being milked three times instead of twice a day. The fact has been frequently tested by experiment. So a cow milked once a day will give less than if milked twice, and may be 'dried off,' by lengthening the period between the times of milking. Frequency and regularity are required to get the *maximum* of which a cow is capable. Why three times a day is not the rule, is not that there would not be a larger flow of milk, but because, ordinarily, the increase would be counterbalanced by the trouble. To bring a cow from a distant pasture on a hot summer's day, for the purpose, would probably not be advisable, but when she is readily at hand, it would be otherwise. As to the *philosophy* of the matter, it is the universal law of supply answering to demand. In the spiritual world, 'he that seeketh findeth'; in the natural, it is not otherwise. And in both, the supply is proportioned to the *urgency* of the demand. The mother offers a full breast to her suckling, and as his necessities compel him to 'seek' his food there, the fountain never fails.

When he begins to munch his crust, and by degrees seek less diligently his nourishment there, the supply gradually falls off, and finally ceases with the demand. There is 'philosophy in milking cows,' as 'there is reason in roasting eggs.'—American Farmer.

Lawn, Orchard, Garden, &c.

LAWNS.

There are thousands of miniature lawns in the front and rear of houses in this city and vicinity, varying in size from a few square feet to several acres, and yet, out of the whole of them, how rare it is to find a single one well kept. The greatest fault generally in the management, or rather, we should say mismanagement of lawns, is, they are not mowed sufficiently often. To make the grass grow thick and fine like fur on an animal, it should be cut at least as often as twice a month. In England they frequently cut their finest lawns once a week.

It is better to mow a lawn in the afternoon or just before a shower, and as soon as cut, the grass should be carefully raked off, and the surface then rolled with an iron roller. Some always lightly sweep the lawn after mowing, and it occasionally requires scratching over with the sharp teeth of an iron rake. We have known this done with good effect as often as twice a month. If any bare spot is then found, it should be sown with fresh seed raked in. It is a good plan also to water the lawn after mowing, with a solution of guano water at the rate of one or two ounces to a gallon of water. A light top dressing of fine bone dust or ashes is very good, or a compost of well rotted manure or muck—though these last are better for a late Autumn top dressing to remain on all winter; slops from the chamber or kitchen diluted and spread on are excellent.

In preparing a lawn, the ground should be first trenched or plowed a foot and a half to two feet deep—three feet deep would be still better. This loosens the soil so that the roots of the grass can strike deep into the earth, and prevents its suffering in a drought. We have known lawns thus prepared to re-

main green and fresh, and constantly producing an abundant growth of grass during the hottest, driest summers, while others not so deeply plowed, and the same kind of soil, were parched up and the grass as brown as in midwinter.

After plowing, the ground should be very finely harrowed, from two to four bushels of grass seed sown to the acre, and then rolled smooth with an iron roller. It is a great mistake not to sow a superabundance of grass seed. By doing this you keep out the weeds, and the grass covers the surface thick and fine at once. As soon as it is up three or four inches, don't be afraid to cut it or keep cutting it often as advised above. Some fear to do this, thinking it will not take root so well; but the contrary is the case, as we have proved from long experience in the management of lawns.

We need not add that the soil should be made clean and thoroughly enriched before sowing the seed, and be kept rich thereafter by frequent top dressings of guano, bone dust, ashes, muck and manure, or a compost of a part or all of them, though guano should never be used at the same time with ashes, lime, or other alkalies.—[Ep.]

MICE—THEIR EXTENSIVE RAVAGES IN ORCHARDS AND NURSERIES—WHAT SHALL BE DONE?

A friend in Western New-York writes us, that the mice girdled his fruit trees so badly the past winter, as to ruin nearly two-thirds of them. He had over sixty acres of orcharding in fine bearing condition. In the nurseries and forests they have been equally destructive. The same calamity has been experienced in Western Michigan and some other parts of the country, where they have never suffered to any great extent before.

Let any of our readers who can, suggest a remedy for these pests. Field mice occasionally swarm like the locusts of Egypt over the land, and if the winter happens to be a deeply snowy one, woe to the fruit trees! Is there a wholesale way of destroying these mice?

Since the above was put in type (three weeks ago) we have received a 'hat full' of letters from every part of the country, complaining of the same matter, and all asking, "What shall be done with the mice?" It is too late to do anything now, but we will call up the subject next Autumn, and throw into a single article all the hints and suggestions we can gather in the meantime. We defer our Clermont correspondent's letter to that time, and also ask for all the information that can be given by our readers generally.—[Ep.]

BLACKBERRY VINES KILLED IN KENTUCKY.

We are sorry to learn the following from the Louisville, (Kentucky,) Courier:

Competent judges inform us that the blackberry crop in this vicinity, will prove a total failure this season. The cold of last winter killed many of the vines and all the fruit buds. The failure of no crop of fruit will be more regretted than that of the blackber-

ry. It is one of our best, most healthful and most delicious fruit, and rarely fails us, being capable of withstanding drouth and extreme wet to a wonderful degree. It had, however, to succumb to the bitter weather that visited us about Christmas and remained so long with us.

ECONOMY IN THE USE OF LAND.

Editor American Agriculturist:

When by chance so placed that I can get sight of the small plots, as well as the city lots of ground that border the numerous new villages on the line of the Harlem and Hudson River Railroad—also those situated on the out skirts of this city and Harlem, and notice the vast aggregate of surface without tree or shrub, choice plant, or fine vegetable, I can not help exclaiming to myself, "What a want of economy in the use of land!" What a loss of comfort, of pleasure, of income, from bad management. I wish to address myself at once to the occupants and owners of these small, yet very valuable plots of ground. Why do you not dig up the weeds, briars and brambles—drain out the mud holes, the fever "sinks"—draw off the water, if any is stagnating there. Do it yourself at "early morn and late at eve," if you can not hire a man to do it, and my word for it, you and your family will be the happier for the improvement, and before many days your appetite for breakfast, and your sleep at night, will both receive a new relish.

Give the ground a most thorough breaking up, rip out every root and branch of improper growth. Then put on any black soil that lines the border of every road and avenue in the vicinity. Place a "pile" on your plot of ground. Spread it over and spade it in perfectly. Now my friend, you are ready for filling your grounds with many comforts. Begin by surrounding the border of the plot with grape vines. They take no room. Plant them six or seven feet apart, and if well planted and carefully cultivated they will in ten years, yes, in five, supply the family with most delightful fruit. If trained high and well fed with pounded or ground bones, soap-suds, &c., they will, in addition to supplying your own wants, from the sale of surplus fruit, often pay the interest on the cost of a cheap lot; while you get a sight of the graceful elegance they display, when folding there tapering arms around the objects that support them; and their cooling shade you get in the bargain. Plant the Isabella and Catawba vines. They are sure bearers all through the lower part of New-York, and surrounding States, South, East and West, and the Isabella every where.

Dig a large hole three or four feet across and one and a half or two feet deep. Then fill it up again with rich dark soil, with ground or pounded bones, and street manure to within nine inches of the top, next put in two or three inches of soil, and put in your vines. Spread out the roots, cover them and fill to the top with good earth. Keep them well watered with all the wash of the house, applied cool, allow but two or three branches from each vine to grow, rub off all the others, and in a few years you will behold a monu-

ment of your industry staring you in the face, with smiles and tears—when the fruit is ripe and the morning dew covers the foliage.

Stop not here! Plant some curiosity, Gooseberries that bare the large fruit, and if you have room the Raspberry, Blackberry and a fine bed of Strawberries. You can get these plants very cheaply, the latter from those who are thinning out old beds, for a trifle or the asking. They can be bought cheap at all the seed stores and nurseries. Plant a few peach trees, also plum and cherry if you have them. Or if you prefer a grass plot to whiten the "linen" upon, sow a square plot in the center of your grounds, with timothy, red top and white clover, spreading a little wood ashes over it, and soon you will have a grass plot—"That is a grass plot."

Your grounds are not full. Plant some choice rose bushes, Carnations, Pinks, and the Lilly of the Valley. If you have more than a city lot you can also raise some vegetables for the table. Lettuce, onions, cabbages, potatoes, peas and beans. Be sure to have some roses blowing *out* of the house, and you will soon find some budding within.

Your wife and children will take pleasure in walking out and helping you plant, nurse and enjoy the good things you are bringing forth to brighten the sunshine of the heart, to warm the affections, to make your children lovers of Nature—the noble, the elegant, the graceful, the beautiful in her Kingdom. The study and the practice in these things expand the intellect, elevate the sentiments, and ameliorate the heart. If there are young ladies here, they will not spend the day talking about dress, the number of hoops and flounces that should be introduced to make it the pink of the fashion, the fixings for the ball, the cut and the style—whole days in shopping and spending money that can't well be spared, and sure to lull Nature's golden charms to sleep and death: wraps them in sackcloth and covers them with the ashes of their former greatness; strips the fruit and foliage through neglect of culture. And if allowed to enter the sacredness of those enclosures, this little garden would be stripped of its comforts and delights. The weeds and briars and thorns would come over it. But the change would not stop here: it would enter the portals of the dwelling and fill the garden of the mind, the affections, and the heart with the charms of their own deformity. Let us keep these things from the lots and the plots—and grounds we are cultivating—from field and valley, from country life altogether.

Yours Mr. Editor is a happy task to direct the taste, to open new sources of enjoyment, that never tire, that confer happiness upon him that gives and him that takes, that afford present enjoyment while enduing the mind with a taste, a relish, for those heaven born pleasures that do not wear out with the using.

U. T. R.

"Father," said a cobbler's lad, as he was pegging away at an old shoe, "they say that trout bite good now." "Well," replied the old gentleman, "stick to work, and they won't bite you."

GARDENS AND FLOWERS.

[We cannot devote a column or two of space to a better purpose than to the following beautiful thoughts and valuable suggestions from a recent number of the Independent. Those who have read the article before will be profited by a reperusal; and in this journal, adapted as it is for binding and preservation, the article may be read over each successive spring.—ED.]

Horticulture, which is one of the several distinct departments of rural economy, consists in the *culture of gardens*; and to all persons who have a lot of ground upon which the sun shines, it is an art that especially commends itself at this opening season of the year. Whether it be pursued for the healthful pleasures which it affords, or more directly for profit to the pocket, it is an agreeable, elevating and refining occupation.

The earth in the days of Paradise was a *garden*, and ever since then the highest conception of a region of beauty is invariably akin to this idea. The land of Beulah is described by Bunyan as a *garden*. It is also delineated by artists on the canvas as a *garden*.

The institution of the garden was no less divinely created than the flowers and fruits that grow in it. It is a consecrated inclosure in which the children of the fields—arrayed as Solomon was not!—are gathered in orderly ranks—as if they were a congregation of men—to worship the universal Creator.

What a spectacle a garden might be made to be! If the full conception which the word inspires were made a reality, language could hardly describe the affluence of luxury and beauty which it would yield. What delightful regalements would be offered on every hand! What clusters of fruit would bend down under their sweet burdens, longing to be plucked! What flowers would hold out their fascinations to captivate both sight and smell! What arbors would be reared to blend the sunlight and the shade, and temper it to every whim of the eye! What figs and almonds would grow! What peaches and nectarines! What plums and grapes! What nuts and berries! What golden apples and melting pears! What brooks would murmur, what fountains would spout, what birds would sing!

But if these are necessary to make a garden, we are afraid that gardens will not abound. There is something in the limited ideal of carrots and cabbages that forbids the anticipation of such a pleasing result. Savoys, cauliflowers, and parsnips are excellent in their place, but they are not the things which would give the highest tone to a garden. Beets are good, and so are radishes and beans, but a garden should not be a universal bed of such vegetables. Onions, garlic and rhubarb are essential to soup, and consequently to the garden, but they should not use up the whole cultivated space.

The kitchen, not only, but the parlor, also, should take a deep root in the garden. A garden should be made to minister to more tastes than one. It should yield esculent products for the palate, beginning with the

commonest and coarsest vegetables, but also embracing the most rare and delicate varieties. It should comprise a scale of fruits no less extensive, and should be decked and beautified in nook and corner with flowers of every hue and odor.

If the spot be small, and the question of roses or radishes involves the exclusion of one or the other, it is better to let the roses stand, that you may call your ground a *garden*. But if you raise only radishes, it is nothing but a *patch*.

A garden, in the broadest embodiment of the word, if it could be made at all, could not be realized in one year—nor in ten. A rich garden is a *collection*. It must be formed by gradual accumulation—like a cabinet of minerals or of shells. It contains a great mass of diversified materials, brought together one by one from every quarter of the globe. It is a conservatory not only of commonplaces, but of rarities; and if the former may be as abundantly attainable as weeds, the latter are often as difficult of access as pearls. It is a place of spacious walks, with beautiful pavements and ornamental edgings. It is a *work of art*, as well as an exhibition of nature. It requires arches and pipes and furnaces underground, and must be furnished with apparatus to create, whenever needed, any of the varying temperatures of all the seasons as they are exhibited in all productive climates.

But such an ideal of a garden should deter no humble beginner from *gardening*. If a large space cannot be obtained, a small inclosure will answer a good purpose. A large ground with small means—while it may make a good *field*—will never make a *garden*. A single flower growing in a pot, in a house where none has been before, is a joy to all who watch and water it; yet a garden that every one will call small, may number a thousand flowers. And it is well to have flowers in pots, where one can do no better; but flowers grow with more thrift when their roots grow down into the bosom of the earth itself. A garden, containing many such, might be had on a small spot, and with but little trouble.

No man can understand nature who never cultivates flowers, and no one can pluck the greatest pleasure and profit from their cultivation, except the garden has its full share of specimens and varieties. Many of nature's works are so complete and beautiful, as to inspire the idea that they are animated with intelligence, but the highest in the whole range is the flower. Fruits are second, but the first are flowers. How many of them seem to be possessed of *consciousness*! If they cannot speak they can listen—but they can almost speak! It is a pleasurable pursuit to gather shells and minerals, but these have no life. Ore, though it be full of gold, is dead and dull. A shell is more suggestive than a stone or metal, for it was once the habitation of a living creature. But a flower is all life. It is not merely a shelly husk. No part of it is formed from inorganic deposits. Its roots and stems have no less vitality than its buds and blossoms.

Flowers are by far the greatest essentials

to a garden, and they are so plentiful that every one may have them. Men should be thankful that they grow on the surface of the earth in such profusion! Their varieties are almost innumerable. There is hardly a climate or a soil in which they do not appear. Travelers have found them in journeying among the sands of the Great Desert, and in ascending to the summits of the Alps. Dr. Kane found shrubs and flowers of the most delicate tissues within the limits of the Arctic circle. They grow even in damp dark yards and under stoops in cities.

No one can be excused who has not a flower somewhere near him, trained and tended by his own hand, either outside his dwelling or within it. And many might have a hundred, where they now have five. Many might have a garden, who have only a single pot. Pictures and works of art are costly decorations for the household—but flowers are cheap. Few can ever possess the one, while all may have the other; and the question of preference—who cannot decide? If flowers were as rare as painted Madonnas, a rose would be a thousand times more precious than the choicest canvas from the easel of Correggio! Flowers are not prized because they are plentiful. If diamonds were scattered over the ground like pebbles, how many ladies would wear diamond rings? Yet the lustre of a single gem would be no less, though ten thousand others sparkled in the grass. It is because flowers are so abundant in the aggregate, that so few people take pains to gather them into their houses and gardens.

But bowsers are *wealth*, and should be husbanded and multiplied; and now is the time to put them out at interest—seed and plant—that they may “yield their own with usury.” And unlike the man in the parable who “went and *digged in the earth* and hid his Lord’s money,” it will be found in the case of flowers that those persons will best succeed who go and *dig in the earth*. The April rains are already moistening the soil, and what is planted will soon be quickened, and will in due time break through the surface and grow. The beginning of the work of gardening can hardly be made too early; and as he who plants for flowers will not have to wait until autumn before he shall reap his rewards, there are many inducements to take spade, hoe and rake, and go out immediately to prepare the beds for the seeds or slips.

We hope that the bearing of these random observations may not be lost upon our readers, who will be every day invited by the further opening of Spring to put them into practical effect.

A SONG FOR SPRING.—There is no prettier song of Spring than that of Solomon, which is worth publishing as often as Winter departs and Spring, with her sunshine smiles, and drapery of green appears:

“Lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone: the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing birds is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in the land; the fig-tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines of the tender grape give a good smell.”

WOMAN AND THE GARDEN.

BY PROF. J. A. NASH.

Farmers should give more attention than is usual to the garden and orchard. Their wives and daughters should have a finger in this pie. Let them *direct* the whole business, and *do* a part of it with their own hands. What signifies this having so many pale, sickly women? It is the bane of American women—worst of all in the rural districts—that they are always shut up. In cities and large villages, they shop and spin street-yarn; see, and are seen of, men; and seem to have an existence, to be a part and parcel of mankind; but not so in our rural districts. As they say out west, *it used to was*, that if a citizen wanted a good, substantial, sensible wife, he must look to the country. But the tables are turning. It is fast coming about, that if a farmer's son should take a fancy *to double the team*, as the Wild-cats, Hoosiers and Suckers tell of doing, he will have to look to the city. We congratulate the city misses; but alas, for the country girls! "Who'll be coming?" The trouble is, our women are *prisoners*, self-made, perhaps, but none the less pale for that. A man might ride all day in our rural districts, and feel at the end of his journey as if he would give more to see a woman than to see any of Barnum's rarities, unless perchance he had passed from Hartford to New-Haven, on the old stage route. Shame on the false *notions*, the downright wrongs (self-inflicted?) on women! Where are the woman's rights folks?

We must not be enticed too long from our subject, the garden. But we want to say two things which will be worth *reading*; and if our readers will *think* a little, they will be willing to carry them into practice.

One is, that if *men*, especially in our rural districts, would consent to *know* a little more about indoor work, *to do* a little more as occasion requires, *to learn* by actual experience that the being perpetually shut up to it is not all child's play, *to see*, with their own *eyes*, and *feel*, through all their *bones*, the want of a few simple, inexpensive fixtures and implements to facilitate woman's labors, and shorten her confinement, it would open the way to important domestic improvements.

The other is, that if the women in our rural districts would consent to be a little informed about the interests and labors of their husbands, and brothers, and if they would occasionally go into the field (not to labor all day and get sunburnt; that is not what we mean; we do not desire the same state of things that exists in the mother countries, where you can not distinguish a woman from a man by looking into the face or at the feet, but only by the intervening vestiture), say to carry out the lunch, to sit under the cool shade and help eat it, to take hold of the plow or scythe just long enough to see what a woman can, or can not do, to breathe the pure air, to see how different from the odor of the sink-room is that of the newly turned soil, and the freshly made hay, to expand the chest, to drink in the joyousness of nature, to laugh instead of sighing and to bloom in

place of fading, it would be a wonderful improvement.

This arbitrary division—we will not say of labor—for we do not wish the distinction of heavier, rougher work for men, and of lighter, cleaner work for woman to be broken in upon—but of a knowledge of the works in different parts of the same establishment, a division more rigidly observed among us than among any other people, so that we know little more of our wives' cares than a goat does of the fine arts, and they hardly as much of ours as one of the small footed celestials does of farming on a western prairie, is a wretched hindrance to the pleasures of domestic life. Away with it!

We have now gone another step towards solving an important problem, proposed some time since;—why our women are the fraillest *physically* of all Eve's daughter? A miserable low estimate of rural employments, conventional usages, and above all a false taste, as if it were indelicate for them *to know* much, and absolutely degrading *to care* any thing for such vulgar matters as the garden, the field, and the farm stock, have kept them ignorant of many things they ought to know, taken away their rational liberties, abridged the excitement essential to health, imprisoned them, blanched them, unnerved them, unmuscled them (to make a word,) made what they must not be, if the race is worth preserving.

The everlasting scrubbing of floors, sweeping carpets, washing dishes, sewing up rips, tending responsibilities, getting breakfast, dinner, supper, going to bed, getting up—this is woman's sphere is it? Very good. But

it should be enlarged a little. There must be more variety, more excitement, more outdoor inspiration. Riding out now and then amounts to nothing, unless it be on horse back; and how many of our farmer's wives and daughters were ever on top of grandmother's side saddle? We doubt whether they would dare mount it, unless it were placed on a box in the garret. There is a want among us of out-door exhilarating, inspiring, muscle making exercise for women. We are not anxious to build a throne and put a woman on it, as they do in England. Nor would we make woman hoe the broad turnip fields, and weed the wheat, and shake the hay, as they do. It is not necessary that woman be made a sovereign or a drudge, but her sphere should extend somewhat outside of lath and plaster. Mothers, go out; take your daughters along with you; visit the garden; explore the terra incognita of the whole farm; take an interest in all its improvements. The garden is especially within your province. A part of it, and not a stingy part, should be cultivated with a succession of flowers, blooming from April to November. If your husbands will not give you a beautiful plot for this purpose, let us know it, and we will write a Phillipic at them. Guano, dissolved at the rate of one pound to a barrel of water, makes the richest of flowers. If your worse half will not give you this, you may find enough else near home that will do about as well. If he tells you that flowers are *useless*, you may

box his ears, *softly*, we mean. Make him give you a beautiful patch, of the size of your parlor at least, and from that up to the ground plot of a large dwelling house. He should manure it well, and spade it up for you to begin with; and then the *women folks* should do the rest, and it should be a little Eden all summer, where much is to be learned and much enjoyed. The work may be done before breakfast and on cloudy days, if you fear the sun.

But your walks need not be limited to the flower garden. The kitchen garden should be enlarged. What a little, penurious apology for a garden we see around too many of our farm houses, as if what is taken for a garden was lost to the farm, and as if the work done on it was so much thrown away, instead of being, as it really is, the most profitable on the place. Let the kitchen garden produce a surplus of every vegetable desired for the table. No matter how great the surplus; for, besides the desirableness of having something to give away, nearly every product of the garden is worth more for stock than it costs; as onions cut into fine pieces, for hens; sun-flower seeds for the poultry at large; beets, parsnips, turnips, for the cows; carrots for either cows or horses; cabbages and corn-stalks for soiling purposes; and weeds, if unfortunately there should be a surplus, for the pigs. But if you have a good husband, and manage him well, we mean if you take as much interest in the garden yourself as is for your health and happiness, there will not be a large growth of weeds.

Neither is it necessary for you to confine your walks to the kitchen garden. What a miserable idea is it, that there is any thing vulgar, indelicate, or improper in a woman's being, in *theory*, or even in *practice*, if need be, at least in direction, a good farmer. Life is uncertain. Why should not the farmer's wife learn how she may live independently if left with no other support for her family than the farm. In England we believe it often happens that the farmer's wife carries out the lease most successfully in case of the husband's decease. We recollect distinctly, when sitting at the table of a farmer in that country, whose family consisted of himself, wife, two daughters and a little son, to have made this reflection; we said within, what a sturdy pair of farmers are here, and how sensible and intelligent both; and the thought occurred to us, that if either should be taken away, the other would carry out the ten years lease of the 500 acres on which they lived, manfully, or womanly as the case might be, but in either emergency well. And yet we never witnessed more manifest propriety, more perfect freedom from all unpleasant assumption, or more intelligence without affectation, than in that great strapping woman, if measured by the eye, but accomplished lady, if measured by the true standard—the mind. We fancied that our great-great-grandmothers, nine generations ago were like her. English women are not ashamed to know something about agriculture, nor to do something about it, if emergencies require. Why should the American women be?

THE AFTER TREATMENT OF THE STRAWBERRY.

A correspondent, who followed our directions for making a Strawberry bed, asks for further instructions upon its cultivation. What is to be done with the runners, &c.? This is a matter of a good deal of importance, to the amateur, and to the market gardener. The process must be a little different, according to the objects in view. If the object is to get the largest amount of very fine specimens of fruit, and of the highest quality, we should not suffer a runner to make a new plant during the season. Go over the ground as often as once in three weeks, and clip every runner. The plants set this Spring will bear very little fruit, and the whole management should be in reference to the next year's crop. The clipping of the runners will concentrate the energies of the plant upon making roots, and forming flower buds for the next year. If allowed to run, a multitude of young plants will be formed, and all the strength of the parent plant will be drawn off to these. We noticed in a bed of the McAvoy's Superior, which we left for forming new plants, that many of the old plants were entirely exhausted by the effort, and did not survive the winter. Many pursue this course with their bearing beds, thinking it less trouble to cut up the young plants, and form new rows in the Spring, than to keep them carefully clipped. But this is a slovenly method, and does not give so good results. Removing the runners has two advantages. It gives opportunity for constant cultivation during the summer, and makes strong plants with full large heads. A plant thus treated sends out its roots in all directions, and will take complete possession of a cube of earth too feet upon each side of it, if it finds it unoccupied with other plants. In the second Spring, there will be a compact head of leaves and flower stalks, and the fruit will be large, and of the best quality, the variety is capable of producing. The amateur will find much more satisfaction in cultivating them by this method than by the more common and more careless one of leaving the runners to take possession of the ground, and to struggle with the weeds.

During the second season when the plants are expected to bear, they should be watered abundantly, with weak liquid manure. This is particularly important after the berries have set, and before they reach their maturity. After they begin to ripen they should be watered less frequently.

If the quantity of fruit is more of an object with the grower than size, and quantity, we think it a good plan to allow one plant to grow between those already set, bringing them nine inches a part in the row and just doubling the number of plants upon a given area. This is particularly desirable with the Hovey's Seedling, which requires less room than some of the other varieties. The fruit of course will not be so large, but there will be more of it. Whether the cultivator will gain any thing by the larger quantity, will depend very much upon his market. In the large cities, size and quality command a much higher price than an ordinary article.

But in many markets a Strawberry is a Strawberry, and a quart of acid Iowas will bring as much as a quart of the highest flavored Pines.

Our direction then for the after treatment of the Strawberry is to keep the runners close cut, cultivate thoroughly, and apply liquid manure in the bearing season.—Ed.

OUR GARDEN—HOW WE WATER AND HOW MANURE IT FOR NOTHING.

We have a kind of experimental plot of nearly one-fourth of an acre, upon which we have put out a large variety of seeds, roots, plants, etc., of both old and new varieties. As we did not get possession until after the first of May, and was then hindered by rains and other pressing business from working it for ten days more, most things put out had a late start. We added no stable manure, and the ground had never had but one slim coating. We procured a barrel of fine bones, (sawings from a factory) which cost us delivered \$3 75 per barrel. A small portion of this was mixed with soil, and put into the hills and drills with the seeds. The main manuring is still to be given as follows:

In one corner nearest to the house, we have sunk a pine hogshead, the top of it, from which the head is removed, is even with the surface of the ground. The removed head is used as a cover, a strip of board being nailed across the top, which projects from the sides far enough to prevent it from falling in, and at the same time answer for handles. The hogshead is an ordinary one in which crockery came packed, and which would not have held water were not the soil packed firmly around it, and not even then, if used for clear water. Into this hogshead *all liquids* from the house, from the kitchen, wash-room, and chambers are poured. The fine materials sifted from coal-ashes also go into the same common receptacle. The coarser cinders are dug into a piece of heavy clayey soil. The dish-water, including waste food, the soap-suds, urine, etc., all furnish rich fertilizing materials. The alkaline suds, and ashes, serve to keep down disagreeable odors. Should these arise in very hot weather, we shall add a trifle of chloride of lime. Probably 25 cents worth will serve for the whole season.

From this tub the roots of every plant in the garden will receive an occasional dose during the entire summer. If the liquid gets too strong by evaporation, or by an unusual accumulation of strong liquids from the kitchen or chamber, it will be thinned by adding water from the cistern. The material is raised from the hogshead with a small bucket having a long handle nailed upon one side. From experiments of a similar character, we are quite sure our garden plot will need no other application to make it as flourishing as could be desired. The slops, instead of running from a sink-spout into a sluggish drain, to breed—if not a pestilence—at least a noisome stench, are by this means all got rid of conveniently and even neatly, and this alone will pay for all trouble, while our plants, trees, &c., will get at

least twenty dollars worth of manuring for—NOTHING!

We are fully prepared by both experience and observation to strongly recommend this plan, or a similar one, to all. When we get time to erect our "home-made poudrette factory," we will describe that also.

RADISHES NOT FIT TO EAT.

We have no partiality for radishes "raw or cooked" and never have had—we have never been able to find anything "delicious" in a radish root, tough or crisp, strong or tasteless, as a pine board. Still, as others like them, we have always provided them for our table. This Spring we have scattered seed in the vacant nooks and corners of the garden, among the currant bushes, between the rows of potatoes, and in a hundred or less other places, to be pulled for use, or dug up as weeds, according to circumstances. A sixpence worth of seed will probably furnish some bushels, with no loss of ground, or extra labor in cultivation. (See our method, at page 185, last month.) But we are half disposed to dig them all up at once, and to repeat every word we have written to aid others in growing this plant, after reading the following in the *Soil of the South*, from the pen of Mr. Peabody, who is pretty good authority. He says:

We are frequently taken to task for the war we have waged upon this worse than worthless vegetable. For fifteen years, we have not permitted one to grow in our garden, or to disgrace our table, and we have found the advantage of pursuing this course, in the improved health of our family. Man is the only animal that will eat a radish, either raw or cooked. The sagacious hog will starve before he will eat the poisonous trash. Crude radishes are the most indigestible food that can be taken into the human stomach, independent of the acrid, poisonous substance they contain. But they do not hurt me, exclaims one, I can eat them with impunity! and with a relish. But, dear reader, do you not have the headache, or a bad breath? Have you no doctor's bills to pay? A radish eaten in the spring may cause a fever in the fall. If any one doubts the poisonous qualities of radishes, let them cut in thin slices, three or four, and soak the slices in water for twelve hours, and then taste the water. Our word for it, they will never taste another radish. As a watchman upon the horticultural watchtower, we cannot commend the culture of a vegetable, that we know to be injurious.

THE CURCULIO.—The Kentucky Horticultural Society have come forward nobly, and offered a reward of \$500 for the discovery of a certain, effectual, and easily applied remedy against the *Curculio*. Let other Societies imitate their example, if not on the same scale. A good lot of premiums, amounting say from \$3,000 to \$5,000, will set experimenters to work, and something valuable will ere long turn up. Money could not be appropriated to better advantage. [Ed.

STRAWBERRY FREAK.—The Louisville Courier states that a singular freak of nature

is noticeable this year in the strawberries of that neighborhood. The variety called the Longworth Prolific has been remarkable as having stamens and pistils on the same flower, but all the plants of that variety are now in bloom near Louisville, and all destitute of stamens. The flowers are all alike, fine large pistillate blooms, entirely without stamens. Some of the beds are three years old, and others two years, and this present bloom is the first appearance of deviation.

For the American Agriculturist.
**MRS. BROWN'S EXPERIENCE IN PAINTING
AND PAPERING.**

Mrs. Brown had been busily employed all day in scrubbing, while Jane had whitewashed the ceiling of the parlor, making it as white as milk. Every trace of winter's smoke and dust had passed away from ceiling and wood-work, but the paper on the walls was dingy, and no rubbing with brush or cotton could make it fair and clean. The paint too was worn from the doors and windows, and along the edges of the base-board the native color of the pine showed itself, giving evidence that both time and Mrs. Brown had been busy in the parlor. The lady, however, was somewhat dissatisfied with her work. The appearance of the room was not altogether what she desired. "I do wish we could have this room painted and papered," she exclaimed, "but Mr. Brown has had to expend so much on the farm this Spring, I know he cannot afford it."

"I wish it could be done," responded Jane, who was always ready to second her mother's wishes.

"If we only had the paint," continued the good woman, "I think we might do it ourselves, and then it would not add much to our expenses."

After some conversation on the subject, they decided to make inquiries in regard to the price of paint, brushes, and paper, the first time they should go to the village. At the tea-table, they told Mr. Brown their plans, and he very cordially approved them, although he feared it would be too hard for them to do it, but they were willing to encounter the fatigue, that they might enjoy the comfort the fatigue would ensure.

The next day Mrs. Brown went with her husband, in the farm wagon, to the village, and made the inquiries she wished. She found she could get a keg of American zinc paint weighing twenty-five pounds for two dollars. The French zinc came a few shillings higher, but it makes a purer white, and as she wished white paint for the parlor she concluded to purchase it in preference to the American, which is more glossy, and answers equally well when it is to be tinted. She selected a large brush for seven shillings, and a small one for one shilling. She also bought some spirits of turpentine to mix with the paint to thin it for use. She was told that it was unnecessary to add oil, there being sufficient put in when the paint was ground. She also bought a little tin can containing a pound of raw amber for eighteen pence, to color the paint for the dining-room, as she concluded that while

she was about such work, she might as well improve the appearance of that room as the other.

After these important purchases were made, she looked at various styles of paper for the walls, and selected a very pretty one of a neutral tint for the parlor, for which she paid two shillings a roll, and one of wood-color, well covered, for the dining-room, for which she paid only a shilling a roll. The shop-keeper exhibited for her inspection quite a variety of paper. Some of it was covered with railroad tracks, the cars apparently in full motion, but never moving an inch from the same spot; a wearisome and ugly sight on the walls of a room, however impressive the reality is when moving along in its grandeur and might, and ever and anon sending forth a roar which rivals that of the king of beasts. Then too there were great parrots, and birds of Paradise, and stainy flowers as unlike nature, as nature is unlike deformity, but Mrs. Brown had too much taste to select any such for her purpose, she preferred those which were not marked, nor glaring in their character.

Mrs. Brown went home quite delighted with her purchases, and her husband and Jane fully sympathized with her. Mr. Brown did not consider anything which affected his wife's comfort of small consequence, and he would gladly have called in paperers and painters if he could afford it, but as he could not, he determined to give her all the assistance his business would allow. He mixed the paint for her to save her the trouble, and used the brushes a little himself. In about half a day Mrs. Brown and her daughter gave the parlor its first coat of paint. They were gratified with their success, having prospered quite as well as they had anticipated. By the next afternoon it was dry enough to receive a second coat. How nicely it made the room look,—so nicely that they decided to give a third to make it perfect. Each day they were amply compensated for their labor by the improvement they witnessed.

When the paint was sufficiently hardened, they proceeded to paper the room. Jane made a paste of rye flour, adding to it a little alum, as she scalded it. They used a small whisk broom and an old hair dust-brush for spreading the paste. As they put the paper on the wall, they were careful to match it, and to remove all wrinkles and air bubbles by patting it with a cotton cloth. They began the smoothing in the middle of the paper, patting outward to each edge. It took them nearly a day to finish. Then the carpet was put down, and the pretty, small-figured chintz curtains were hung at the windows. The cane seated chairs, the ottomans—made of soap-boxes, with springs, and covered with chintz like the curtains—and the lounge of domestic manufacture, with the other furniture were brought in, and tastefully arranged. In one corner stood a small "what not" filled with books, for all Mrs. Brown's family loved to read. When the arrangements were completed, even to filling a vase with a few spring flowers, Mrs. Brown seated herself in the great armchair

to contemplate the result of her new effort at house-cleaning, and this time she was perfectly satisfied. Her parlor was as pretty and tasteful as any lady need desire.

Mrs. Brown's success in the dining-room was equally pleasing. The paint she tinted with umber, instead of using the pure white. When the two rooms were finished there was paint enough left for another, and this she used in her own chamber. She expresses her intention of painting more or less every Spring, thus keeping her house in the finest order, without suffering the annoyance of having strange painters about, and at the same time saving much expense.

I have given a brief account of Mrs. Brown's experience in papering and painting for the encouragement of other housekeepers, who are equally disheartened in regard to the appearance of their rooms. It is an old saying that "what man has done, man may do," and it is equally true that what woman has done woman may do.

It is not difficult to learn to paper, or to paint. All it requires is a little instruction and a little experience. The Agriculturist has given us some valuable information in regard to different colors, which may essentially aid those who wish to try for themselves Mrs. Brown's experiment.

ANNA HOPE.

REARING CHICKENS—A LADY'S EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor of the American Agriculturist.

As this is the season of the year for rearing chickens, allow me to communicate the results of my own experience in this interesting process. Last year I had a great mortality among my young broods. One little beauty after another drooped its tiny wings, and pined away till death finished its sufferings. I consulted the most approved books on Poultry breeding, and administered in turn the various remedies therein recommended for diseased fowls—pepper, chopped onions, powdered rhubarb, &c., but all these remedies were equally unsuccessful, and the chickens so doctored died off quite as quickly as those in which the disease was allowed to follow the natural course. At length, when the little favorite chicken—a lovely black Dorking—"took sick and died," I determined to discover, if possible, the exact nature and cause of its disease, by dissecting it. On carefully opening the little body, I found the gall bladder about twice its natural size, and black as ink. The liver was also very large, and of a deep yellow color. The heart was small, pale, and flaccid, and the intestines were distended with air to the very utmost, like blown up bladders. Other chickens which perished from the same malady, presented similar appearances on dissection.

Judging from these appearances I inferred that the mortality among my chickens was principally occasioned by a derangement of the liver and digestive apparatus induced by improper diet. I had fed them on fine Indian meal mixed with water; and they likewise partook of the unground corn flung to the larger fowls, as I found two or three undigested grains in the crop and gizzard of

some of the chickens. The children also supplied them pretty plentifully with chopped meat and tit-bits from the table. This year I discarded the Indial meal, and fed my chickens for the first week on a dry paste compounded of chopped hard boiled eggs, bread crumbs, and oatmeal. About the second or third week, I gave rice which had been boiled six minutes and strained from the water, with meal strown over it. Afterwards I gave cracked corn, which I consider a very excellent food for young chickens in all stages of their growth: it is retailed at the same price as unground corn, viz: 88 cents per bushel, at the present time in Brooklyn. There has been no loss among my chickens since the adoption of this diet. I may add, that I am careful in securing them against damp, and always keep them under shelter on rainy days. In fine weather the brood hens are confined in roomy coops in the garden, and the chickens are allowed to range about. I consider them good gardeners in the full sense of the term, as they industriously pick up every worm and insect that can be found.

HULDAH.

EAST BROOKLYN, May 10, 1856.

NOVEL METHOD FOR CLEARING A HOUSE OF RATS.

A chemical friend of ours has recently detailed to us the following account of a novel, amusing, and at the same time effectual, plan adopted by him for freeing his house from these most unwelcome visitors—the rats. The house he occupied in Boston was one of a block, and when first tenanted was comparatively free from the intruders in question. After a time, however, for some unknown reason, they appeared at once in great numbers. They occupied every room and closet, marauded in the cellar, galloped in the garret, and danced jigs nightly over every sleeping apartment, *a la ten pins*. Every expedient thought of was adopted for lessening their numbers, but without effect. Traps availed nothing—the rats were old and wise—poison had no temptations, cats were defied. At last our friend bethought himself of summoning the powers of chemistry to his aid, which he did as follows: Raising a small board in the garret floor, he opened a communication between the floor and ceiling beneath, which interior communicated with the spaces between the side walls and the laths and plaster over the whole house. Into this opening he placed a dish containing finely pulverized black oxide of manganese, and poured over it a suitable quantity of strong hydrochloric (muriatic) acid. The floor-board was then replaced. The effect of the chemical mixture of black oxide of manganese and hydrochloric acid is to disengage slowly in the cold that most powerful, deodorizing, fumigating gas, chlorine. In common with all gases, it gradually diffuses itself through the air, but having a greater weight than atmospheric air, it accumulates at the lowest levels. The tendency of the gas liberated, therefore, was to penetrate every vacant space between the walls,

and ceilings, and at last found exit in the cellar.

It may be here stated that the quantity of gas so liberated can exert no injurious effect upon the house or its inmates—indeed the result is rather beneficial than otherwise upon the general health. In the case in question, the odor was not noticed to any extent in the body of the house, but after a while was very perceptible in the cellars. In a concentrated condition, chlorine, it is well-known, is most offensive, irrespirable and destructive of animal life. It, at the same time, neutralizes and destroys all other odors and infectious matters.

To return, however, to the rats. The chemical arrangement described had not been long in operation, when it became evident that something unusual was occurring in ratdom. Meetings were apparently being held in hot haste, and messengers were despatched to and fro. "All night long, it would seem," says the narrator, "as if Bedlam had broken loose between the partitions of my house. The inhabitants were not only decamping, but were carrying their plunder and household goods along with them." Towards morning, however, all had become quiet—the rats had vamoosed, big and little, and for a period of nearly three months not one was heard or seen on the premises. Now they are gradually returning, but as soon as they become troublesome, another invitation to leave will be extended.

[The above from the Farm Journal, may be a pretty effectual method in some cases, but not a very safe one. Chlorine is a suffocating and deadly gas, if breathed in too large quantities. We should be very loth to go to sleep with the gas escaping anywhere about the house. The same result would be produced by placing considerable quantities of the common cheap chloride of calcium (chloride of lime) in open dishes just as is practiced in cleansing sick rooms. Burning sulphur, and even charcoal will have a similar effect. If these gases are used, let the dwelling be vacated by all human beings during the operation. If there are colored articles of clothing in the house not perfectly dry they will be pretty effectually bleached if allowed to remain in an atmosphere of chlorine or sulphurous acid gas.—Ed.]

GETTING READY FOR MARRIAGE.—A strange fancy is exhibited in the case of a rich old spinster, who died at Newtown, N. H., recently, leaving behind her the nice little sum of \$38,419. She had been all her life getting ready to be married, and had stored up 182 sheets, 63 coverlets, 50 blankets, 27 beds, with 1,120 pounds of feathers, 54 towels, 24 table covers, and 43 handkerchiefs, while the whole amount of her wearing apparel did not exceed \$10 in value.

THE EXPRESS MESSENGER.—A wide-awake, first-rate weekly paper, devoted to entertaining literature, agricultural and express intelligence, &c., worth ten times its cost. Published at \$1.50 per annum, or \$1 for eight months, by A. L. STIMSON, Produce and Commission Merchant, No. 162 Fulton-st., New-York.

THE LITTLE WINTER GRAVE.

[The following lines though out of season, come home to our heart, and we put them in this corner that we may look at them again and again.—Ed.]

Our baby lies under the snow, sweet wife,
Our baby lies under the snow,

Out in the dark with the night,

While the winds so loudly blow.

As a dead saint thou art pale, sweet wife.

And the cross is on thy breast,

Oh the snow no more can chill

That little dove in its nest.

Shall we shut the baby out sweet wife,
While the chilling winds do blow?

Oh, the grave is now its bed,

And its coverlid is snow.

Oh, our merry bird is snared, sweet wife,

That a strain of music gave,

And the snow falls on our hearts,

And our hearts are each a grave.

Oh, it was the lamp of our life, sweet wife,
Blown out in a night of gloom;

A leaf from our flower of love,

Nipped in its fresh Spring bloom.

But the lamp will shine above, sweet wife,

And the leaf again shall grow,

Where there are no bitter winds,

And no dreary, dreary snow.

POETRY SOBERED Down.—I'm thinking of the time, Kate, when sitting by thy side, and shelling beans I gazed on thee, and felt a wondrous pride. In silence leaned we o'er the pan, and neither spoke a word, but the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound we heard. Thy auburn curls hung down, Kate, and kissed thy lily cheek; azure eyes half filled with tears bespoke a spirit meek. To be so charmed as I was then had ne'er before occurred, when the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound I heard. I thought it was not wrong, Kate, so leaning o'er the dish, as you snatched up a lot of beans, I snatched a nectared kiss. And a sudden shower made my eyes blind, and I neither saw nor stirred, but the rattling of the beans, Kate, was all the sound I heard.

WISE LEGISLATOR.—A shrewd farmer in the Vermont Legislature declined answering the speech of a member who was remarkable for nothing but his pugnastic impudence and self-conceit. "For, Mr. Speaker," said he, "I can't reply to that speech, for it always wrenches me terribly to kick against nothing."

THE MORMONS AT HOME, with some Incidents of Travel from Missouri to California, 1852-3, in a series of letters. By Mrs. B. G. Ferris (wife of the U. S. Secretary for Utah). 300 pages. Price 75 cents. This is a book which will be perused with much interest.

A census taker once called upon the mother of a family in California, or some other prolific country, and asked how many children she had. The mother replied that she really could not tell, but there was this of which she was certain, "the measles got among the children once, but there wasn't enough of it to go round."

The Frost saw the pretty Flower, and sought to marry. "Wilt thou?" said the Frost, and the Flower wilted.

NEW JERSEY STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SECOND ANNUAL EXHIBITION, 1856.—This is to be held at Newark, Sept. 10th to 12th inclusive. A liberal premium list has been published, and extensive preparations are making to get up a first class exhibition, and we doubt not it will be done. Newark City alone is able to furnish a paying crowd of visitors, while the near and easy access of the grounds to New York City will call forth many attendants from that place. But the FARMERS of New Jersey should not only exert themselves to get up a good show, but also lay their plans to make this the occasion for their great autumnal holidays.

STRYCHNINE—LARD NOT AN ANTIDOTE.—A statement has been quite current during a year or so past, that hog's lard is an antidote for that terrible poison, Strychnine. In the Eclectic Medical Journal we find a communication from Dr. B. Keith, M. D., in which he states that he has been experimenting, in order to verify or disprove the correctness of the lard antidote. He operated upon a strong and healthy dog, to which he administered eight ounces of lard, and five minutes after one grain of strychnine. In six hours after taking this small quantity of strychnine the poor dog breathed his last.

A just man should account nothing more precious than his word, nothing more venerable than his faith, and nothing more sacred than his promise.

REVIEW OF PRICES, WEATHER, &c.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURIST OFFICE,
NEW-YORK, May 29, 1856.

At our last review (April 28) we stated that a decline was taking place in Breadstuffs. This continued to about the middle of this month, when a slight re-action commenced, and prices are now a little higher than one month ago, though a downward tendency is again exhibited. The most recent intelligence from Europe is unfavorable to present rates being continued here. The reports from all parts of this country exhibit fair prospects for the coming harvest, though it is still too early to calculate upon the result with any degree of certainty. We think the chances are decidedly against higher prices for grain during a year to come. This is now, however, merely an opinion. Two months from this date we shall have more extensive data to judge from. We are making arrangements to get the earliest possible information from all parts of the country.

We respectfully ask all our correspondents and readers to drop us a line or two, in season to reach us by the 23d to the 25th of each month, stating briefly what is the actual condition of the wheat and other crops in their immediate vicinity.

We find upon our note-book, records of sales of Breadstuffs for 26 business days, ending to-day: of Flour, 387,700 barrels; of Wheat, 593,600 bushels; of Corn, 1,099,000 bushels; of Rye, 134,700 bushels; and of Barley, 1,800 bushels. Our last report, (April 29) for 27 business days gave of

Flour, 281,600 barrels; of Wheat, 191,000 bushels; of Corn, 1,147,000 bushels; of Rye, 213,600 bushels; and of Barley, 44,200 bushels.

The following figures show the present price of some of the principal agricultural products, and also the variations since our last report.

	April 29.	May 29.
Flour—Superfine No. 2....	\$4 75@	5 50 \$5 00@
Ordinary State.....	5 50@	5 75 6 00@
Mixed Western.....	5 25@	6 00 5 18@
Favorite and Ex. State.....	5 75@	6 25 6 12@
Extra Genesee.....	6 50@	9 00 6 75@
Wheat—Canada White.....	1 70@	1 90 1 55@
Southern White.....	1 60@	1 80 1 60@
Southern Red.....	1 50@	1 65 1 50@
Western Red and White.....	1 34@	1 80 1 30@
Corn—Western Mixed.....	58@	60 59@
Yellow and White.....	60@	62 58@
Rye.....	85@	92 84@
Barley.....	1 10@	1 25 1 10@
Oats—Western, &c.....	30@	44 30@
Cotton—Middling.....	11@	11 10@
Rice.....	3 50@	4 25 3 50@
Pork—Mess.....	18 00@	18 50 16 50@
Dressed Hogs.....	7@	7@ 8@
Lard, in bbls.....	9@	10@ 10@
Butter—Western.....	11@	17 11@
State.....	16@	22 16@
Cheese.....	6@	9
Potatoes—Carters.....	1 62@	2 00 1 37@
Mercers.....	1 12@	2 62 1 37@
Onions—Reds.....	1 25@	1 50 1 25@
White.....	2 00@	2 50 2 00@
Apples.....	1 25@	2 62 1 00@

Beef Cattle were quite abundant on the last three market days, and prices have ruled somewhat low. Ohio and Illinois have supplied two-thirds to three-fourths of all sold here during the month of May. Yesterday there was a slight advance over the average prices of the month. We quote the closing prices at 44th-street last evening; Premium cattle 10¢.a10¢. per lb. net or dressed weight; First quality 9¢.a10¢.; Medium quality, 9¢.a9¢.; Poor quality, 8¢.a9¢.; Poorest quality 8¢.a8¢.; General selling prices, 9¢.a10¢. Average of all sales, about 9¢.a9¢.

GUANO is now sold by the Peruvian Government agents in lots, at the following rates for cash, viz; 10 to 25 tuns, \$60 per tun; 26 to 50 tuns, \$50 per tun; 51 to 100 tuns, \$58 per tun; 101 to 150 tuns, \$57 per tun; 151 to 200 tuns, \$56 per tun; 201 to 500 tuns, \$55 per tun; and for 501 tuns and upward, a credit of 60 days. Our largest dealers, who buy sufficient at a time to get it at the lowest rates, now retail it at 2½¢. per lb. or \$55 for the tun of 2,000 lbs. The difference in the long and short tun being just about enough to cover expenses of cartage, storage, interest, and a very small profit.

THE WEATHER.—This has been very favorable during most of this month, both for getting in Spring crops and for hastening forward winter grain kept back by a very late opening of Spring. We hear of considerable damage to fruit trees in different parts of the country. In many places peach trees, especially, were killed down to the ground, when not entirely destroyed. Winter wheat and rye, as well as clover, do not appear to have suffered as much from Winter-kill as was at first feared. The heavy body of snow upon the ground served as a valuable protection. The grass crop promises magnificently.

Our weather notes read thus:—May 1st clear; 2d and 3d rainy; 5th and 6th clear, cool and frosty; 7th a little rain; 8th, 9th, and 10th, cold Northeast rain, which cleared up on the morning of the 11th; 12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th, clear and warm, everything growing finely; 16th, warm showers; 17th,

18th, and 19th, clear and fine; 20th rain and fog in the morning, clear P. M.; 21st, 22d, 23d, 24th, clear and warm; 25th, 26th and 27th clear and cool; 28th showers; to-day, (29th) clear and fine.

Seeds planted last month have in some instances failed to come up, and a new planting required. Most of our own seeds were put in from the 5th to the 12th of this month and these have nearly all vegetated and are above ground. The following will serve for future reference:

April 3d—Crocus in bloom. We have occasionally seen them in bloom the first week in March. Their coming forward early depends much upon the weather last of February and forepart of March.

April 10th—The Weeping Willow, Lilac, Gooseberry, Currant, Privet, and some other shrubs began to leave out. We have noticed these some seasons as early as the 24th of March.

April 17th—Planting potatoes commenced on the south side of Long Island.

April 24th—Apricot began to bloom.

May 1st—Cherry and Peach began to bloom. We have often known these to come out 14 to 17 days earlier.

May 3d—Willow and Horsechesnut in half leaf.

May 10th—Horse Chestnut and Lilac began to bloom.

In keeping a record of the leaving and blooming of trees, shrubs, &c., our observations should not only be made in the same localities from season to season, but on the same trees, shrubs, &c., as there is often a difference of nearly a week in the blooming of different kinds of fruit trees.

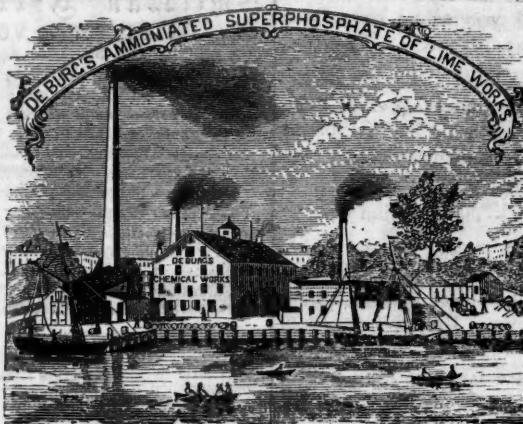
On the 15th of April we noticed ice and snow of the past winters accumulation, still left in small banks in the most shaded places in this city. This we never experienced before in this city. Although snow showers fall occasionally (melting nearly as fast as they fall) as late as this old ice and snow. We have scarcely known ice and snow to remain heretofore beyond the middle of Marco. As a contrast to the above the thermometer has risen higher in May than we ever recollect to have seen it. On the 23d it stood at 84° at the highest, and on the 24th at 91°.

Vegetation has come forward very rapidly during the month of May, and we suspect by the 10th of June, it will be about as forward as it usually is, when March and April have proved much milder than this season.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We have still on hand a large number of unanswered letters. We hope to bring all up "square" by the second week of this month.

We The suggestions of J. B. of Wisconsin will be attended to in due time.

Some excellent articles came in too late for this number—they will appear next month, when not out of season. We were sorry to leave over a good article on Selecting House Plants and Flowers, with descriptions of the best; it will be in time in the July issue.



D BURG'S AMMONIATED SUPERPHOSPHATE OF LIME.

THE attention of Farmers and Planters is respectfully called to the above invaluable compound, for their approaching spring planting.

The Manufacturer begs to assure his friends and patrons, that they may always depend upon being supplied with a genuine and uniform article, for he constantly superintends, in person, the entire process of manufacture and putting up for sale.

This article has now been before the community for a period of five years, during which time it has been analyzed by a large number of Chemists in different places; has been TRIED by farmers upon every kind of soil, in nearly every State in the Union, with almost unvarying success.

In response to my proposition, two years since, to allow any responsible farmers or Agricultural Societies to take, free of cost, a quantity of it wherever they might find it on sale, and give it the most searching practical trials, I am happy to be able to state that many of the most influential Agricultural Societies have made such trials, and have pronounced them qualified approbation of it as a valuable and paying manure.

Please refer, for proof of this, among others, to the Reports of the "Massachusetts State Farm" for 1853, and for the present year.

Perhaps one of the best proofs of its value is the greatly increased demand, unprecedented in the history of artificial fertilizers, and not equaled by guano itself. I have now (Feb. 1st,

orders for more than \$100,000 worth, received since the commencement of the present year, but having greatly enlarged my works, adding the new factories of which a water-side view is given above, I hope to be able to supply orders to any extent that may be required.

As there are a large number of Superphosphates in market for the value of which I would not like to be responsible, I earnestly request all purchasing to be careful to get the GENUINE article, either from myself or my accredited agents, who are always acknowledged respectable. For the Superphosphate purchased from such houses, I hold myself responsible for its good character.

The Superphosphate is packed in bags holding 150 lbs. each, and in barrels containing about 300 lbs. each. No charge is made for bags or barrels. In small quantities I will deliver it cartage-free on board any vessel or railroad leaving New-York City.

CASH PRICE, \$5 per tun of 2,000 lbs.

Orders (stating whether in bags or barrels) to be addressed to C. B. DEBURG, (Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer,) Williamsburg, L. I.

(Factories two blocks south of Peck-slip Ferry.)
N. B.—Pamphlets with full directions sent on application.
109—116a

FISH GUANO.—The NARRAGANSETT MANUFACTURING COMPANY of Providence, R. I., are now prepared to execute orders for their FISH GUANO. They have prepared their Guano after two methods. One by chemically treating, cooking and then drying and grinding the fish to a powder. This is put in bags and sold at \$45 per tun. The other variety is prepared as above (with the exception of drying and grinding,) and is then combined with an absorbant which is in itself a valuable fertilizer, and sold at two dollars per bbl. containing about 200 lbs. The compost is of great strength, and must be a very efficient fertilizer, as it is composed in great part of simple flesh and bones of fish.

Dr. Chas. T. Jackson, of Boston, has made an analysis of the Powder, and says:

"It is similar to the Peruvian Guano in composition, with the exception that the ammonial matter is dried flesh of fish, and not yet putrefied, as is to be ammoniacal. It will, however, produce ammonia by decomposition in the soil. One hundred grains of this manure, dried and finely pulverised, was submitted to analysis, with the following result:

ANALYSIS.		
Ammonial matter (flesh or fish)	- - -	48.00
Phosphate of Lime	- - -	33.90
Carbonate of Lime	- - -	7.60
Sulphate of Lime	- - -	6.40
Potash of Soda	- - -	4.10
		100.00

Respectfully your obedient servant,
CHARLES T. JACKSON,
Assayer to the State of Massachusetts."

Dr. Jackson's opinion of our Guano is expressed in the following note:

Boston, March 9, 1855.

S. B. Halliday, Esq.—Dear Sir: In reply to your letter, I would state my entire confidence in the superiority of a properly prepared artificial guano, made from fishes, over that of the natural guano of birds, obtained from the coast of Peru.

It is obvious that more of the nitrogenous, or ammonia-producing substances, exist in fish prepared after your method than are found in any guano, and hence the artificial preparation will go further in the fertilization of a soil.

The ammoniacal salts act chiefly in bringing the foliage into a healthy and luxuriant condition, and thus cause the plant to absorb more of the phosphate and other necessary salts and substances from the soil, and more carbonic acid from the air. The carbonate of ammonia, also, is a solvent for humus, and it quickly saturates any injurious acid salts that may exist in the soil, and forms from some of them valuable fertilizers.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

C. T. JACKSON, M. D., State Assayer, &c.

This manure is offered to agriculturists with the assurance of its becoming one of the most popular to be obtained. The Company are ready to establish agencies at such places as are desirable for the convenience of farmers. As the supply for the season is rather limited, the Company would esteem it a favor to have orders forwarded early to enable them to lay down at their agencies the requisite quantities in proper time for use. Orders may be addressed to the Company at Providence, or to R. L. Allen, N. Y.; R. H. Pease, Albany; Geo. Buck, Hartford.

S. B. HALLIDAY, Agent.

No. 22 West Water-st., Providence, R. I.
Providence, Jan. 15, 1856.

VALUABLE AND CHEAP PROPERTY FOR SALE IN MORRISTOWN, N. J.

The subscriber offers his property for sale. The improvements are one new two-story House, with tin roof, containing seven rooms, beside garret and cellar the full size of the house.

There are nearly four acres of good clay ground, with a never-failing stream of water running through; located on the Washington Turnpike, within three minutes walk of the Railroad depot. The garden is well stocked with fruit trees of the choicest varieties, particularly Pears. There is also a very valuable orchard of bearing Orange-Quince trees—nearly 100.

A rare opportunity for a cash purchaser. Title indisputable.
1101fn21 Wm. DAY.

THE "CALIFORNIA FARMER," devoted to Agriculture, Stock Breeding, and the useful sciences
Subscriptions received at the Resident Editor's Office, No. 119 Washington-st., Boston. Sample copies sent when ordered

WILLARD FELT, No. 14 Maiden-lane,
Manufacturer of Blank Books, and Importer and Dealer in PAPER and STATIONERY of every description. Particular attention paid to orders.

FARM LANDS FOR SALE.
THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
IS NOW PREPARED TO SELL
OVER TWO MILLION OF ACRES
OF
FARMING LANDS,
IN TRACTS OF FORTY ACRES AND UPWARD,
ON LONG CREDIT AND AT LOW RATES OF INTEREST.

These lands were granted by the Government, to aid in the construction of this Railroad, and include some of the richest and most fertile prairies in the State, interspersed here and there with magnificent groves of oak and other timber. The road extends from Chicago, on the northeast, to Cairo at the south, and from thence to Galena and Dunleith, in the northwest extreme of the State, and as all the lands lie within fifteen miles on each side of this road, ready and cheap means are afforded by it for transporting the products of the lands to any of those points, and from thence to Eastern and Southern markets. Moreover, the rapid growth of flourishing towns and villages along the line, and the great increase in population by immigration, etc., afford a substantial and growing home demand for farm produce.

The soil is a dark, rich mould, from one to five feet in depth, is gently rolling, and peculiarly fitted for grazing cattle and sheep, or the cultivation of wheat, Indian corn, etc.

Economy in cultivating, and great productiveness, are the well-known characteristics of Illinois lands. Trees are not required to be cut down, stumps grubbed, or stone picked off, as is generally the case in cultivating new land in the older States. The first crop of Indian corn, planted on the newly broken sod, usually repays the cost of plowing and fencing.

Wheat sown on the newly-turned sod is sure to yield very large profits. A man with a plow and two yoke of oxen will break one-and-a-half to two acres per day. Contracts can be made for breaking, ready for corn or wheat, at from \$2 to \$2.50 per acre. By judicious management, the land may be plowed and fenced the first, and under a high state of cultivation the second year.

Corn, grain, cattle, etc., will be forwarded at reasonable rates to Chicago, for the Eastern market, and to Cairo for the South.

The Company will sell cheap lands of Illinois over the high-priced lands in the Eastern and Middle States, is known to be much more than sufficient to pay the difference of transportation to the Eastern market.

Bituminous coal is mined at several points along the road, and is a cheap and desirable fuel. It can be delivered at several points along the road at \$1.50 to \$4 per ton. Wood can be had at the same rates per cord.

Those who think of settling in Iowa or Minnesota, should bear in mind, that lands there of any value, along the water courses, and for many miles inland, have been disposed of—that for those located in the interior, there are no conveniences for transporting the produce to market, railroads not having been introduced there. That to send the produce of these lands one or two hundred miles by wagon to market, would cost much more than the expense of cultivating them; and hence, Government lands thus situated, at \$1.50 per acre, are not good investments as the land of this Company at the prices fixed.

The same remarks hold good in relation to the lands in Kansas and Nebraska, for although vacant lands may be found nearer the water courses, the distance to market is far greater, and every hundred miles the produce of those lands are carried either in wagons or interrupted water communications, increases the expenses of transportation, which must be borne by the settlers, in the reduced price of their products; and to that extent precisely are the incomes from their farms, and of course, on their investments, annually and every year reduced.

The great fertility of the lands now offered for sale by this Company, and their consequent yield over those of the Eastern and Middle States, is much more than sufficient to pay the difference in the cost of production, especially in view of the facilities furnished by this road, and others with which it connects, the operation of which are not interrupted by the low water of Summer, or the frost of Winter.

PRICE AND TERMS OF PAYMENT.

The price will vary from \$5 to \$25, according to location, quality, etc. Contracts for deeds may be made during the year 1856, stipulating the purchase money to be paid in five annual installments. The first to become due in two years from the date of contract, and the others annually thereafter. The last payment will become due at the end of the sixth year from the date of the contract.

Interest will be charged at only three per cent. per annum.

As a security to the performance of the contract, the first two years' interest must be paid in advance, and it must be understood that at least one-tenth of the land purchased shall yearly be brought under cultivation. Twenty per cent. from the credit price will be deducted for cash. The Company's construction bonds will be received as cash.

Ready Framed Farm Buildings, which can be set up in a few days, can be obtained from responsible persons.

They will be twelve feet by twenty feet, divided into one living and three bedrooms, and will cost, complete, set up on ground chosen anywhere along the road, \$150 in cash, exclusive of transportation. Larger buildings may be contracted for at proportionate rates. The Company will forward all the materials for such buildings over their road promptly.

Special arrangements with dealers can be made to supply those purchasing the Company's lands with fencing materials, agricultural tools, and an outfit of provisions in any quantity, at the wholesale price.

It is believed that the low price, long credit, and low rate of interest charged for these lands, will enable a man with a few hundred dollars in cash, and ordinary industry, to make himself independent before all the purchase money becomes due. In the mean time, the rapid settlement of the country will probably have increased their value four or five fold. When required, an experienced person will accompany applicants, to give information and aid in selecting lands.

Circulars, containing numerous instances of successful farming, signed by respectable and well-known farmers living in the neighborhood of the Railroad lands throughout the State—also, the cost of fencing, price of cattle, expense of harvesting, threshing, etc., by contract—or any other information—will be cheerfully given, on application, either personally or by letter. In English, French, or German, addressed to

JOHN WILSON,

Land Commissioner of the Illinois Central Railroad Co.
Office, up to the 1st of May, No. 52 Michigan Avenue, Chicago,
Ill. After that date, in the new stone Passenger Depot, foot of South Water-street.

112—117n3

TEACH CHILDREN TO LOVE NATURE.

School teachers may do much, and parents may do more, to implant in the minds of the young an enthusiastic and profitable love of nature. We mean by this, animals and inanimate nature; the birds and beasts, the butterflies and insects, as well as the plants and flowers, the trees and the hills.

Teachers in the summer schools may give such lessons every day as shall make a child happier and more useful every day he lives. Show them the beauty of a Spring morning; teach them the colors and changes of morning and evening clouds, and the kinds and forms of noonday clouds. Help them to observe the bursting buds of spring, the growing foliage of summer, the ripening fruits of autumn, and the cold, dead sleep of winter. Quicken the power of observation, and the sharpness of the reason, by noticing and reflecting on all these changes, their causes and reasons. And you will be doing more for the children, to keep them from vice, than many direct moral exhortations.

The man who loves nature, its wonderful phenomena, its glowing beauties, its divine significance, and sees beyond all these a God of majestic goodness, can hardly be vicious or unhappy. Every morning, noon, and evening, he is filled with profiting reflections, and with improving emotions. Such an one is a better citizen, a better friend, a better neighbor, a better father, brother or Christian. We say, then, to all teachers, improve the summer to make your children love nature better, and teach them also how to adorn and improve it; how to plant and tend flowers in the garden, shrubs on the lawn, and trees by the roadside; how, in fine, to make this world of beauty more worthy of being the residence of intelligence and goodness.

One's Mother.—Around the idea of one's mother the mind of man clings with fond affection. It is the first dear thought stamped upon our infant hearts, when soft and capable of receiving most profound impressions, and all the after feelings are more or less light in comparison. Our passions and our wilfulness may lead us far from our filial love; we may become wild, headstrong and angry at her counsels or opposition; but when death has stilled her monitory voice, and nothing but calm memory remains to recapitulate her good deeds, affection, like a flower beaten to the ground by a rude storm, raises up her head and smiles amidst her tears. Around that idea, as we have said, the mind clings with fond affection; and even when the earlier period of our loss forces memory to be silent, fancy takes the place of remembrance and twines the image of our departed parent with a garland of graces and beauties and virtues, which we doubt not that she possessed.

GEOLGY.—Geology supplies us the medals of the past; the world's history is written on stones; link by link we unite the chain which assures us of a Divine architect.

A vine, like a soldier, is trained—has tendrils—and shoots.

If you want to be honored and beloved, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

"Our party is the bone and sinew of the country," said an electioneering office-holder to a farmer. "And what are the bones and sinews worth without the brains?" replied the farmer.

Loss of APPETITE.—The Russian bear at first tried to swallow the whole of a Turkey, but afterwards begged only for a peace!

"Grandma," said a little urchin, "your specs are upside down. Do you wear them thus to see to see?"

"No, my dear; I wear them so to see."

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Business Notices.

Persons forwarding money by mail may consider the arrival of the paper an acknowledgment of the receipt of the money.

BACK NUMBERS AND BACK VOLUMES.—We have no more of these to spare, previous to Vol. XII—our entire extra edition up to that time having been exhausted.

Of Vols. XIII, XIV and XV, we have several sets, which will be furnished so long as they last, at \$1, unbound, or \$1.50, neatly bound in muslin.

Back numbers of the present volume can only be supplied from MAY. Of the May and June numbers we have printed a very large extra edition,—probably enough to meet all demands.

American Agriculturist.

FIFTEENTH VOLUME

A Leading and Standard Agricultural Journal, devoted to the development and improvement of every department of Soil Culture, and adapted equally to the circumstances and wants of those who cultivate SMALL PLOTS of ground or LARGE FARMS.

It is designed to collect and communicate MAIN, PRAC-

TICAL, and RELIABLE information upon the Selection of Seeds; the best method of preparing the ground for, and cultivating the various Field and Garden Crops; Fruit Growing; Care, Treatment and Improvement of all kinds of Domestic Animals; the Construction and Embellishment of Farm Buildings; Housing, Preserving, and Marketing the Products of the Farm, Orchard, Garden and Dairy; and to the Domestic or Household labors of the Rural Home.

The proprietor of the Agriculturist—having been trained from childhood to the active labors of a large farm embracing a varied culture, and having devoted a dozen years to studying the principles lying at the foundation of improved soil culture in schools, in the field, in the laboratory, and in traveling for observation—trusts that he will be able to set before the readers of this journal such a collection of sound and practical information as will be to each a continual source of valuable knowledge.

Having no connection, directly or indirectly, with any other business whatever, and owning and controlling the columns of this paper, the Editor claims to be entirely independent of all influences which, under other circumstances, might be supposed to modify or govern his opinions or teachings.

Those gentlemen whose labors have contributed so much in years past to the value of the pages of the Agriculturist, still feel a lively interest in its continued and increased prosperity, and they promise their editorial assistance. The best editorial aid to be found in the country will be continually sought for.

The matter of each number will be prepared with reference to the month in which it is dated, and will be promptly and regularly mailed at least one day before the beginning of the month in which it is dated.

T E R M S — INVARIABLELY IN ADVANCE.	
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The paper is considered paid for wherever it is sent, and will be promptly discontinued when the time for which it is ordered expires.

All business and other communications should be addressed to the Editor and Proprietor,

ORANGE JUDD,
No. 189 Water-st., New-York.

WEEKLY NEWS, MARKET REPORTS, &c.

By an arrangement with Messrs. Raymond, Wesley & Co., Proprietors of the New York Daily, Semi-Weekly and Weekly TIMES, the Editor of the Agriculturist is engaged to prepare the Agricultural Department of their papers, including the Reports of the New-York Cattle Markets, &c. The WEEKLY TIMES contains all the matter of the Daily and Semi-Weekly on these subjects, including reports of the sales, transactions and prices of farm and garden produce, live stock, &c., together with full and comprehensive intelligence of a general character from all parts of the world. (In answer to inquiries it should be stated that Mr. Judd's responsibility for articles in the TIMES extends only to the Agricultural department.

Those desiring it will be furnished by the Proprietor of the Agriculturist with the two papers combined, as follows:

TERMS—Of American Agriculturist and Weekly Times.

One copy of both papers one year..... \$2 00

Three copies of both papers one year..... 5 25

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AGENTS, &c.—Mr. C. TABER, and Mr. A. WHITMAN, are regularly employed in the office of the American Agriculturist. They will make occasional tours into various parts of the country, to collect notes of the practice and experience of Farmers and Gardeners; and to attend to business matters connected with subscriptions and advertisements. They will at all times carry credentials and regular receipts and other documents of the Office. Any information or assistance rendered to them will be duly appreciated by the Publisher.

Mr. WM. LLOYD BOWERS, of Providence, is our regular accredited agent for Rhode Island, and the adjacent parts of Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

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